ESTABLISHED 1818.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 51,571—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY :—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1899.

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Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1899.
M.I. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	25th Mar.
* CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	1st April
M.I. CARTHAGE	5198	C. Gadd	8th "
* CLYDE	4099	A. Symons	15th "
M.I. CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	22nd "
* SHANNON	4362	F. Cole	29th "
M.I. PENINSULAR	5287	W. Wheler	6th May,
* CLYDE	4099	A. Symons	13th "
M.I. EGYPT	7913	G. Isaubourne	20th "
* SHANNON	4362	F. Cole	27th "
M.I. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	3rd June.
CLYDE	4099	A. Symons	10th "
M.I. CARTHAGE	5198	C. Gadd	17th "
* SHANNON	4362	F. Cole	24th "

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I. M. SHIELDS,
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Bombay, 15th March, 1899.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

TO TRIESTE DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain	Tons	To sail on
IMPERATOR	L. Brelich	4,139	1st April 1899.
* AMPHITRITE	G. Costanzo	3,827	15th April 1899.
IMPERATRIX	G. Nicolich	4,212	1st May 1899.

* SALOON passage Rs. 375.

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Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
TRIESTE	A. Mitis	5,095	7th April 1899.
MARIA VALERIE	A. Fellner	4,235	7th May 1899.
MARQUIS BACQUEHEM	C. Androvich	4,469	7th June 1899.

PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

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Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
MARQUIS BACQUEHEM	G. Wallweshnig.	4,429	23rd March 1899

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Sassoon House, 52, Church Gate Street, Bombay, Mar. 17, 1899.

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S.S. "KAGOSHIMA MARU," Capt. R. Nimomo, 4,376 tons, will sail for TUTICORIN, SINGAPORE, CHINA and JAPAN on the 23rd instant.

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S. S. "DWARKA," 1,655 tons, on the 28th March, at 10 a.m., calling at Verawal, Mangrole, Porebunder and Cutch Mandvie. (Weather permitting.)

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.

S. S. "PACHUMBA," 867 tons, at 10 a. m., on the 23rd March, calling at Kurrachee, Gwadur, Muscat, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah and Busreh, in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR ADEN, MOMBASA, ZANZIBAR AND LAMOO.

S. S. "GOA," 1,903 tons, on or about 22nd March.

FOR KARACHI, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "LAWADA," 3,269 tons, on or about 11th April, calling at Mombasa, and Zanzibar, in the foregoing or any order.

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "KERBELA," 1,961 tons, on or about 23rd March;

FOR SEYCHELLES, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

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MANILLA	G. B. Gavino	5,000	30th March 1899.

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TO MARSEILLES DIRECT.
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Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on Tuesday. 12 noon.
CALEDONIEN	4,232	Durrande	11th Apr, 1899
YARRA	4,255	X	9th May, 1899
SALAZIE	4,255	Negre	6th June 1899
LAOS	6,357	Plandin	4th July 1899
SYDNEY	4,232	Aubert	1st Aug. 1899
OCEANIEN	4,249	Schfitz	29th Aug. 1899.

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INDUS	6,357	Chevalier	6th April 1899.

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ORCHESTRA 50 PERFORMERS.
CHORUS 75 VOICES.

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1. Orchestral Symphony No. 5 in C. Minor Op. 67 Beethoven
   1. Allegro con brio C Minor.
   2. Andante con moto A Flat.
   3. Scherzo and trio Allegro C Minor and Major leading into.
   4. Finale—Allegro, return of trio, Allegro and final Presto C. Major
2. Cantata...Schicksalslied Song of Destiny...Brahms. For Chorus and Orchestra.

INTERVAL OF TEN MINUTES.

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Honorary Conductor—Lieut.-Colonel MARTIN.
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Byculla Club.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

THE BANK will be CLOSED on MONDAY, the 27th instant, that day, being a Public Holiday, under the "Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881."

JAS. H. SLEIGH,
Secretary and Treasurer.
Bombay, 20th March, 1899.

NOTICE is hereby given that MAGANLAL BHUGWANDAS, has contracted TO SELL to our client the property herein below firstly described, that BHUGWANDAS JAMNADAS has contracted to sell to our client the property herein below secondly described and that JEKISONDAS MANEKLAL and MANEKLAL KESHAVRAM have contracted to sell to our client the property herein below thirdly described and that therefore all persons having any claim to or interest in any of the said three properties by way of sale, gift, lease, mortgage, inheritance or otherwise should within fourteen days from the date hereof make the same known in writing to Messrs. BICKNELL, MERWANJI and MOTILAL at their office No. 7J, Meadow Street, Fort, and that otherwise the said purchase will be completed without reference to any such claims and the same if any will be considered to have been waived.

FIRSTLY.—All that piece or parcel of Fazandari land or ground together with the dwelling-house hereditaments and premises standing thereon situate at 2nd Bhoiwada Street, without the Fort of Bombay, in the Sub-district of Bombay, containing by admeasurement one hundred and fifty-one square yards or thereabouts, assessed by the Bombay Municipality under C ward No. 5376 and Street Nos. 116, 118 and 120, and bounded as follows—that is to say, on the East partly by a gulley separating the same from the house of Chintamany Maharaj and partly by the property of Narotumdas Narandas, on or towards the West by the property secondly herein below described, on or towards the North by Sweepers Gulley, Swami Narayen Temple and the house of Runchordas Pranjivandas, and on or towards the South by the said Second Bhoiwada Street and which said hereditaments and premises have been in the occupation of the said Maganlal Bhugwandas and his tenants.

SECONDLY.—All that piece or parcel of Fazandari land or ground together with the house standing thereon situate, lying and being at Second Bhoiwada Street without the Fort of Bombay, in the Registration Sub-district of Bombay containing by admeasurement one hundred and fifty square yards or thereabouts and assessed by the Bombay Municipality under C Ward No. 5375 and Street Nos. 110, 112 and 114 and bounded as follows, that is to say, on the East by the property herein above firstly described, on the West by the property hereinbelow thirdly described on the North by the Sweeper's passage and on the South by the aforesaid Second Bhoiwada Street and which said hereditaments and premises have been in the occupation of the said Bhugwandas Jamnadas and his tenants.

THIRDLY.—All that piece or parcel of Farandari land or ground, together with the dwelling house standing thereon situate, lying and being at Second Bhoiwada Street without the Fort of Bombay, in the Registration Sub-district of Bombay, containing by admeasurement one hundred and two square yards or thereabouts and assessed by the Bombay Municipality under C Ward No. 5374 and Street No. 102-108 and bounded as follows, that is to say, on the East by the property hereinbefore secondly described, on the West by House of Shriji formerly belonging to Bai Tejcoover wife of Mulji Chatur, on the North by Sweeper's Lane, and on the South by second Bhoiwada Street, and which said hereditaments and premises have been in the occupation of the said Jekisondas Maneklal and Maneklal Keshavram and their tenants.—Dated at Bombay, this 21st day of March, 1899.

BICKNELL, MERWANJI & MOTILAL,
Attorneys for the Purchaser.

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ADMISSION REDUCED TO 4 ANNAS.
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WEDNESDAY, 22ND; THURSDAY, 23RD;
FRIDAY, 24TH and SATURDAY, 25TH.

On THURSDAY, EXHIBITION will be OPEN from 8 A.M. to 4-30 P.M., when it will CLOSE owing to Philharmonic practices, it will be OPEN again from 7-30 P.M. to 10 P.M., for a PROMENADE CONCERT.

On WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY and SATURDAY, the EXHIBITION will be OPEN from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M.

MILITARY BAND every Afternoon and Evening.

Exhibitors who are in Bombay are requested to send for their pictures to the Town Hall on SUNDAY, March 26th.

SALES BY AUCTION.

BENNETT AND COMPANY.
No. 22, APOLLO STREET.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

On SATURDAY, the 25th inst., at 1 p.m., Messrs. BENNETT and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at their rooms, the surplus stock of Messrs R. Ditmar and Co. consisting of rich glassware, flower pots, glass decantors, cheese stands. Japanese flower vases, hurricane lamps, etc. The above will be on view 3 days before the sale.

On SATURDAY, the 25th instant, Messrs. BENNETT and Co. will sell by Public Auction at their Rooms a quantity of grey and coloured piece-goods, etc, etc.

AT 1-30 P.M.,

1 handsome strong dog-cart in very good order.
1 handsome strong landau in very good order.
1 secondhand strong office shigram in good order.
1 grey Arab, quiet in harness.
1 bay waler, quiet in harness and saddle.

On MONDAY, the 27th inst., at 1 p.m. Messrs. BENNETT and Co are instructed to sell by Public Auction at Dongersey Road, Malabar Hill, the very valuable latest designed handsome blackwood and Teakwood, plain and carved French-polished household furniture, glass and crockeryware, by Treacher, platedware by Elkington and Mappin, Persian carpets, oilpaintings, pictures, rich table ornaments and flower vases, etc., the property of W. F. O. DONOGHUE Esq.

Catalogues will be published, and the property will be on view four days before the sale.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

On WEDNESDAY, the 29th inst., at 1 p.m., Messrs. BENNETT and Co. will sell by Public Auction, on the 2nd floor of White House, near Apollo Bunder, very valuable and handsome teak and blackwood household furniture, rich glass, plated, and crockeryware, table ornaments, hanging and table lamps by R. Ditmar and Co., oil paintings and pictures, English carpets, one ebonized cottage piano by Soundy and Co. in very good order, etc., etc., the property of P. LLEWELLYN, Esq.

Catalogues will be published and the property will be on view four days before the sale.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

On THURSDAY, the 30th inst., at 1 p.m. Messrs. BENNETT & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at St. Vincents, Malabar Hill, the very valuable and handsome blackwood and teakwood plain and carved French-polished household furniture made to order, best platedwere, rich crockery and glassware, handsome China and Japanese vases, rich table ornaments, first-rate pictures and oleographs, &c., &c., the property of Major H. P. DIMMOCK, I. M. S.

Catalogues will be published and the property will be on view four days before the sale.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

AUCTION SALE OF A VALUABLE LARGE GARDEN.

On THURSDAY, the 30th inst at 7-30a.m., Messrs BENNETT & Co. will sell by Public Auction at St. Vincents, Malabar Hill, a large collection of choice and rare plants in tubs and pots, consisting of anthuriums, begonias, crotons, lillies, gold ferns, Ceylon palms, Poona standard roses, orchids, a large fern house, garden tools, etc., etc., the property of Major H. P. Dimmock, I. M. S.

Catalogues will be published and the plants will be on view 4 days before the sale.

BENNETT & CO.
Bombay, March 22nd, 1899.

CRAWFORD AND COMPANY,
No. 7, MARINE STREET.

THE Sale of the Ripon Bone-Crushing Factory situate at Frere Bunder, ADVERTISED to take place TO-DAY is POSTPONED

On SATURDAY, the 25th instant, at 1 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at Warden Road, Breach Candy, next to "Chauteau Petit," valuable blackwood and teakwood household furniture, James's Coventry tricycle in good order, Singer's sewing machine, ebonized grand cattage piano, table ornaments, pictures, mother-o'-pearl panell screen, garden pots, etc. the property of Dr. J. P. Nicholson.

Catalogues will be published, and the property will be on view, three days before the sale.

Under instructions from the Administrator-General, Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. will sell by Public Auction, at their rooms on TUESDAY the 28th inst. at 3 p.m. the effects of the late Mr. J. P. Cornforth consisting of office tables, arm and without arm chairs, easy chairs, chest of drawers, pigeon hole press, marble top wash-hand table, glass door cupboards, clothes press, screen, double cot, pictures, wearing apparel, uniform, platedware, gold spectacles, masonic jewels, books, copying press, trunks, swords, old gun, etc.

The property will be on view 3 days before the sale.

On WEDNESDAY, the 29th instant, at 1 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at the "Westfield," Warden Road, Breach Candy, opposite the Battery, the very valuable and handsome blackwood and teakwood household furniture, rich crockery and glassware, best platedware, ebonized square piano by Richard Lipp, mahogany cottage piano by Soundy, handsome landau, strong-built vis-a-vis, waler mare, 8 years old, quiet and ridden by a lady, waler horse, side saddle, brass hall fountain, table ornaments, oil paintings, wind-proof lamps, Persian carpets, Milner's fireproof safe, a large collection of choice plants in tubs and China and other pots, etc., the property of Messrs. G. Ashby and R. M. Roe.

Catalogues will be published, and the property will be on view four days before the sale.

SALE OF VALUABLE LANDED PROPERTY AT KAMBEKAR STREET OR DON TAD 1ST ROW.

On WEDNESDAY, the 29th instant, at 4 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. will sell by Public Auction, on the premises, by order of the mortgagee, and on account and at the risk of the mortgagor, Khatoobai, widow of Kazi Fateh Mahomed bin Kazi Noor Mahomed Porebundri, in pursuance of the power of sale given in the indenture of mortgage, dated the 15th day of April, 1894, the following property viz.—

All that piece of fazendari land, whereof the Trustees of the Cathedral of Nossa Senhora de Esperanca are the fazendars, together with the messuage, tenement or dwelling-house, hereditament, and premises standing thereon situate on the eastern side of Kambekar Street, on 1st Don Tad Street alias Don Tad 1st Row, otherwise called Gora Moholla Musjid Street, without the Fort, and in the Island of Bombay, formerly in the sub-registration district of Mandvi, and now in the sub-registration district of Bombay, containing by admeasurement 264 square yards, be the same, a little more or less, registered in the books of the fazendars in the name of the said Kazi Fateh Mahomed bin Kazi Noormahomed Porebundri, assessed by the Municipality under Ward B, Ward No. 2601 and street Nos. 261 265 and bounded on the north by the house of Khoja Ladhabhoy Ebrahim on the east by a sweeper's passage and beyond that by the property belonging jointly to the heirs of the said Kazi Fateh Mahomed bin Kazi Noor Mahomed Porebunderi on the south by the house of Svadanee Khaloo Nubee and on the west by the Kambekar Street or 1st Don Tad Street alias Don Tad 1st Row, otherwise called Gora Moholla Musjid Street, and which premises are now in the occupation of the tenants of the mortgagor.

For further particulars and conditions of sale application may be made to the undersigned.

On THURSDAY, the 30th instant, at 1 p.m. Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at Church Gate Street, Fort, above Messrs. Norman and Co. the valuable and handsome blackwood and teakwood household and office furniture, plated ware, crockery and glassware, large size coal cooking stove with chimney and utensils, copying press, counter Vienna iron safe or stand, Hinks lamps, Brussels and oil carpets, etc., the property of H. CHICK Esq.

Catalogues will be published and the property will be on view 3 days before the sale.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

On SUNDAY, the 2nd proximo, at 1 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at DeLisle Road, Parel, Corner of Curry Road, opposite Union Mill, the valuable and neat French-polished household furniture, made to order, consisting of drawing-room suits, single and double almyra, dressing and washhand tables, Singer's hand sewing machine, nearly new, windproof lamps, light easy running Ralli cart in good order, American plated, pony harness, almost new, Sterling pneumatic bicycle, etc., the property of N. M. MARSHALL, Esq., proceeding to England.

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VOICE from Madras.—C. Green, Esq., Retired Salt Officer and Secy. to Rajah Veneegopala Bahadur, writes on 19th May, 1898:—I suffered with fever for 19 days and had two doctors in attendance, but their Medicines did me no good. I was then recommended to try Batliwalla's Ague Mixture and with few doses the fever left me and I have had no return of it since. . . . . Batliwalla and Co.'s Choleral is as effective in Cholera as Batliwalla's Ague Pills or Mixture are effective in fevers. It has never failed in cases of Cholera, and you are requested to send for its testimonials. Batliwalla's Ague Pills or Mixture and Batliwalla and Co.'s Choleral are sold everywhere, at Re. 1 per bottle, or are sent by Dr. BATLIWALLA, Worlee, Dadur, Bombay. Discount to the Trade.

OVERLAND SUMMARY, published Weekly on the Departure of English Mail, 28 pages of the "Pall Mall Budget" size, containing all the information of the previous week, carefully arranged, Army Orders, &c., Indian Subscription, Rs. 12 per year, free of Postage, English Subscription, Rs. 15 per year, including Postage.

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At Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Lahore, Kurrachee.
CORRESPONDENTS.

PARIS	The Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Ld.
SINGAPORE, PENANG	Messrs. Boustead & Co.
HONGKONG	Messrs. Gilman & Co.
AUSTRALIA	Bank of Australasia and Branch
COLOMBO	The Bank of Madras.
RANGOON	Bank of Bengal
AGRA	Alliance Bank of Simla, Ld.
DELHI	Bank of Bengal.

BOMBAY BRANCH.

ACCOUNTS CURRENT opened and Interest allowed when the Balance does not fall below Rs. 1,000.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Received on Terms to be learnt on application.

HOME REMITTANCE DEPOSITS for family and other remittances to Europe in the Bank's own Bills and Interest at 3 per cent, allowed thereon pending remittance.

Circular Notes issued negotiable in all the principal Town in Europe, Securities received in safe custody and Interest and Dividends realised thereon.

LOANS granted on Government Paper or other convertible Securities; and APPROVED Bills discounted.

GOVERNMENT and other STOCKS and SHARES bought and sold, and the safe custody of the same undertaken.

INTEREST, PAY and PENSIONS collected; and every other description of Banking Business and Money Agency transacted.

J. BLACKHALL, Manager.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LD.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL...... Yens 12,000,000
PAID UP CAPITAL .... ,, 10,500,000
RESERVE FUND .... ,, 6,960,000
HEAD OFFICE—YOKOHAMA.
BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:
Kobe London, Lyons, New York, San Francisco Hawaii, Shanghai, and Hongkong.
BANKERS—The LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK.
The UNION BANK of LONDON, AND THE PARR'S BANK, LIMITED.
BOMBAY AGENCY.

LIBERAL INTEREST allowed on CURRENT ACCOUNT and FIXED DEPOSITS, on Terms to be learnt on application.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities and every description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on JAPAN, and the Chief Commercial places in the World.

Y. MATSUO,
Agent.
Albert Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.

MENIST'S SPECTACLES.
MARCKS & CO.'S SPECTACLES.

WE beg to bring to the notice of the SPECTACLE wearing community, our following revised PRICE LIST:—

Menist's Spectacles.	Gold. Rs.	Silver Rs.	Steel. Rs.
With Turnpin Sides	60	28	16
With Single temple Sides	50	24	16
Solders	50	28	16

Spectacles and Folders as above but fitted with Marcks and Co.'s Pebbles, Rs. 5 reduction on Gold and Silver, and Rs. 4 reduction on steel. The new Sold and Steel "Movillette" Frames, fitted with Menist's or Marcks' Pebbles, prices as above.

All the newest patterns in Frames always in stock. REPAIRS EXECUTED by the most EXPERIENCED WORKMEN at reasonable rates. OCULISTS PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY PREPARED.

SPECIAL.

Our celebrated, VIOLET TINTED, SUN, GLARE and DUST GLASSES, are invaluable to people, who suffer from the extreme glare of a tropical climate. May be purchased in either Steel, Nickel, Silver or Gold Frames, Japanese cups, nickel gauze cups, Stirrups with folding sides, folders and Globula, Spectacles from Rs. 5 per pair.

MARCKS & Co., LD.,
BOMBAY AND POONA

REPORTS, Petitions, Memorials, Business Announcements, Bill Forms, Books, Pamphlets, &c., &c., printed with neatness and promptitude and at lowest rates. Special terms for large contracts. Apply to "Bombay Gazette" Steam Press.

BANKS.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...£1,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000
RESERVE FUND £250,000
HEAD OFFICE:
47 THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E. C.
BRANCHES:
Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Colombo, Kurrachee, Delhi, Rangoon, Mandalay, Tuticorin, Kandy, Newera Elya, Zanzibar, Steamer Point, Aden, Cawnpore and Mombassa.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

The Bank receives DEPOSITS FIXED for one year and shorter periods, at Rates of Interest to be ascertained on application.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened for approved Customers, and Interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000, but no Interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 10 half-yearly.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE payable in the principal Cities of Europe, India, China, and Australia purchased or collected.

DRAFTS are granted on the Head Office and Branches of the Bank and on the principal Cities of Europe and Australia. Remittances may be made by telegram.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividends when due.

LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on approved Securities.

H. CHALMERS,
Manager.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.
AUTHORISED CAPITAL £1,500,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL...............£1,114,625
PAID-UP CAPITAL £562,500
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £562,500
HEAD OFFICE:
40, Threadneedle Street, London, E. C.
LONDON BANKERS:
The Bank of England.
The London Joint Stock Bank.
BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:
BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, MADRAS, COLOMBO, KANDY GALLE, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, and SHANGHAI.

The Bank negotiates and collects Bills and grants Drafts payable at its Head Office and Branches, and issues Letters of Credit for the use of Travellers

The Bank receives Deposits on the following terms:—

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 2 per cent. on the daily balance if not under Rs. 1,000 and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000. Sums over Rs. 1,00,000 will be received on terms to be ascertained on application.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Fixed Deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum.
Rates for Deposits for shorter periods may be learned on application.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks and Shares and receives same for safe custody, realising interest and dividends when due

J. K. MOIR,
Manager.
Elphinstone Circle, Bombay.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
Paid up Capital.............................$ 00,00,000
Reserve Fund...............................$ 100,00,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors.........$ 100,00,00
COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONGKONG:
T. JACKSON, *Chief Manager.*
London Bankers.—LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LD.
LONDON COMMITTEE:
E. F. DUNCANSON, Esq. (of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.)
WM. ANASTASIUS JONES, Esq. (Director of the London and County Banking Co., Limited).
F. D. BARNES, Esq. (Managing Director, P. & O. S. N. Co.)
G. E. NOBLE, Esq., 37 Inverness Terrace, Bayswater, W.)
EWEN CAMERON, JOHN WALTER. } Managers.
BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.
LONDON, HONGKONG, SHANGHAI.

AMOY.	HANKOW.	PENANG.
BANGKOK.	HIOGO.	RANGOON.
BATAVIA.	ILOILO.	SAIGON.
BOMBAY.	LYONS.	SANFRANCISCO
CALCUTTA.	MANILA.	SINGAPORE.
COLOMBO.	NAGASAKI.	SOURABAYA.
FOOCHOW.	NEW YORK.	TIENTSIN.
HAMBURG.	PEKING.	YOKOHAMA.

BOMBAY AGENCY.
CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 1 per cent. per annum on Daily Balances if not under Rs. 1,000, and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000; but no Interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 5 half-yearly.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Received on terms which may be learnt on application.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every Description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

Drafts granted on London and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China, and Japan.

G. H. TOWNSEND,
Agent.
47, Church Gate Street, Bombay, and at 51, Dalhousie Square, South, Calcutta.

COMPTOIR NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.
HEAD OFFICE:—14, Rue Bergere.
LONDON 52 —Threadneedle Street, E.C.
LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER.
CAPITAL ...Fcs. 1,00,000,000 (£4,000,000).
LONDON BANKERS:—
BANK OF ENGLAND.
UNION BANK OF LONDON.

BRANCHES in all Principal Towns of France, Calcutta Bombay, Tunis, San Francisco Chicago, New Orleans, Melbourne, Sydney, Tamatave and Tanacariva.

Current Deposit Accounts are opened, and Interest is allowed on Daily Balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000. Rates to be learnt on application.

Special arrangements may be obtained on application.

Deposit Accounts are Opened for Fixed Periods at rates to be ascertained on application.

Drafts and Letters of Credit issued payable at any of the chief Commercial Towns of the World.

The Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris beg to draw the attention of Travellers to its Letter of Credit Department in Paris at the Branch Office, 2, Place de l'Opera, in the very centre of the fashionable quarter of Paris, on the Boulevards facing the Grand Opera, and within easy reach of the principal Hotels, Theatres, and Shops.

Writing and Reading Rooms, Telephone, all necessary arrangements for receiving and despatching Correspondence, exchanging Money, letting Safes or parts thereof wherein travellers can deposit valuables which they do not wish to keep in the Hotels, further Strong Rooms for the storage of heavy luggage, etc.

Dividends, Coupons, etc., on Government Paper, and other Stocks cashed for Customers without charge if remitted Home through the Bank.

Loans and Cash Credits granted on Government Paper Gold, Silver, and Produce.

W. LLEWELLYN,
Manager.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.
HEAD OFFICE—MADRAS.
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1885.
BRANCHES at Bombay, Calcutta, Rangoon, Kurrachee, Rawalpindi, and London.

	Rs.
PAID-UP CAPITAL	0,00,000
RESERVES AND REST.........................	13,37,417
SECURITY PROVIDED FOR DEPOSITORS...	53,37,417

CURRENT ACCOUNTS receive 2 per cent. per annum up to Rs. 10,000 in the event of the balance not falling below Rs. 500.

STERLING DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS for Home Remittances receive 4 per cent. per annum.

FIXED DEPOSITS.—Receipts issued for 24 months at 6 cent., 12 months at 5 1-2 per cent., 9 months at 5 per cent., 6 months at 4 1-2 per cent. per annum.

Special rates are given for Short Terms Deposits during the busy season.

PRUDENTIAL OR PROVIDENT FUND.—Sums as small as Rs. 10 are received, carrying 5 per cent. interest, compounded half-yearly.

N. B.—The Bank will also transfer sums for Deposit or Credit in London, carrying interest from date of transfer in India.

Accounts are opened and Receipts issued in the name of "either or survivor."

CHEQUES, BILLS, HUNDIS and CURRENCY NOTES of any Circle are collected and credited, free of charge, in any of the Interest Deposit Accounts.

CREDITS, LOANS, BILLS, and PROMISSORY NOTES negotiated.

INVESTMENT ORDERS on London Stock Exchange under Code with London Branch.

Rules and Particulars obtainable at any office of the Bank.

By Order of the Board,
F. D. STRANACK,
Manager.
Bombay, 1st January, 1899.

Digitized with financial assistance from the Government of Maharashtra on 18 June, 2017

NOTICES.

THE ASSOCIATED EXCHANGE BANKS.

THE ASSOCIATED EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED on MONDAY, the 27th instant, being a Public Holiday, under the "Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881."

THE FREEMASONS' NEW HALL will be OPENED on SATURDAY, the 25th instant, at 6 p.m., on which occasion the Undersigned will have a REFRESHMENT BAR in a SHAMIANA outside the Masonic Hall, where a Band will be in attendance.

A SPECIAL DINNER TABLE will also be provided in the SALOON of the GRAND HOTEL, which is about 200 yards from the Masonic Hall, for such of the Freemasons as may require Dinner, for which a Notice should be given by sending in their names before the 23rd instant, either to the Undersigned direct or through the Secretaries of the Grand Lodges, or through the Honorary Secretary, Freemasons' Hall.

An Excellent Menu for Rs. 2 per head will be provided. Separate charge will be made for Wines.

C. BREGONZIO & CO.,
Managing Proprietors.

SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY.

NOTICE.

TENDERS for the SUPPLY of 400 Tons of first class MOULMEIN or RANGOON TEAK, are invited.

2. Forms of Tender and specification can be obtained at the office of the undersigned on payment of a fee of One Rupee each set.

3. Tenders in sealed covers superscribed "Tender for Teak Timber" must reach the office of the Agent, S. M. Railway, Dharwar, by the 10th April, 1899.

4. Each Tender must be accompanied by a deposit of Rupees 100 in cash or Currency Notes.

5. The successful Tenderer will be required to furnish cash security equal to 5 per cent. of the total value of the contract and also to execute a formal agreement with the Company within 10 days of the acceptance of his Tender: failing this, his deposit of Rupees hundred will be forfeited to the Company.

6. The deposits of unsuccessful Tenderers will be returned.

7. The Company do not undertake to accept the lowest or any Tender.

L. E. H. BROCK,
Locomotive and Carriage Superintendent.

Hubli, 17th March, 1899.

NOTICE.

THE TRUSTEES of the Estate of HAJEE DAWOOD HAJEE MAHOMED and Co., late Piece goods merchants of Juckeria Musjid, invite all creditors to furnish the Undersigned with their claims within 10 ten days from this date, to enable them to adjust their accounts and declare a dividend.

Any claims made after the expiry of the period will be considered invalid.

A. R. SHARP,
S. P. LAM,
Trustees in the matter.

Sirdar's Buildings, Dean Lane, Bombay, 18th March, 1899.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.
SUIT No. 238 OF 1889.

BANOOBAI .... Plaintiff.
vs.
VULLIBHAI KHANBHOY .... Defendant

PURSUANT to the Decree made in the above suit and bearing date the 18th day of August 1892, as varied by two several Consent Orders herein dated respectively the 3rd day of April, 1894, and the 19th day of April, 1894, all that the estate, right, title and interest of the abovenamed Plaintiff and of the abovenamed Defendant, Vullibhoy Khanbhai in each and every of the following immoveable and moveable properties will be SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, before the Commissioner of this Honourable Court, in the Court House, on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd day of March, 1899, at the hour of three o'clock in the afternoon.

PARTICULARS:

LOT No. I.

All that piece or parcel of Fazendary land or ground standing in the books of the Collector of Bombay in the names of Soorujmal Gungaram, Goolraj Gungaram and Goolabrai Gungaram together with the messuage, tenement or dwelling-house and premises standing thereon, situate, lying and being without the Fort of Bombay, fronting Balloo Sarung Street commonly called Bhoosari Mohulla, on the West side thereof in sub-district of Bombay formerly in the occupation of the tenants of Noorbhoy Luteebjee but now in the occupation of the Defendant Vullibhai Khanbhai and his tenants, assessed by the Municipality of Bombay formerly under Nos. 23 and 24 but now under Street Nos. 76 and 78, and containing by admeasurement two hundred and seventy-six square yards and four-ninths of another square yard or thereabouts and bounded as follows:—That is to say on or towards the East by Balloo Sarung Street, aforesaid on or towards the West by a Sweeper's passage, on or towards the North by a passage abutting on the house formerly of Khutru Moosa Juma but now of the Defendant Vullibhai Khanbhai (hereinafter referred to as Lot No. 2, and on or towards the South by the house formerly of Shaik Ahmed Putwa but now of Abdoola Hoosein.

LOT No. II.

All that piece or parcel of Fazendary land or ground standing in the books of the Collector of Bombay in the names of Soorujmal Gungaram, Gookraj Gungaram and Gulabrai Gungaram, together with the messuages, tenements or dwelling houses and premises standing thereon situate, lying and being without the Fort of Bombay, fronting Balloo Sarung Street, aforesaid, on the West side thereof in the Sub-district of Bombay formerly in the occupation of the tenants of Dawal Jaffer and Lalloo Rujub and now in the occupation of the Defendant Vullibhai Khanbhai and his tenants, assessed by the Collector of Assessment formerly under Nos. 25 and 24, but now under Street No. 80-82, and containing by admeasurement one hundred and eighteen square yards and eight-fifteenths of another square yard be the same, little more or less, and bounded as follows.—That is to say on or towards the East by the said Balloo Sarung Street, on or towards the West by a Sweeper's passage, on or towards the North by the property formerly of Isack Suckor but now of late Shaik Ahmed, and on or towards the South by the house formerly of Noorbhoy Lutibjee but now of the Defendant Vullibhai Khanbhai being the premises referred to as lot No. I.

LOT No. III.

FIRSTLY.—All that piece or parcel of land or ground together with the messuages standing thereon, situate at place called Mazagon, in the Island of Bombay, containing by (or believed to contain) ten thousand and sixty square yards by admeasurement assessed by the Collector of Land Revenue under old No. 74, New No. 1633, old Survey No. 763 and New Survey No. 3296, Ward No. 6769-5774, Street No. 1-6, and bounded as follows:—That it to say on or towards the East and West by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway wharf on or towards the North by the leasehold ground of Rustomjee Ardesir Wadia, next herein after secondly described abutting on the Mazagon Bunder Row and on or towards the South by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway wharf which said premises are situate in the registration sub-district of Bombay and were formerly in the occupation of Messrs. Stearns Hobart and Company and were since partly in the occupation of the said Rustomjee Ardesir Wadia and partly in the occupation of Jeejeebhoy Dadabhoy and are now partly in the occupation of the Bombay Municipality for a police hospital and partly vacant and are the premises comprised in and granted by an Indenture of Lease bearing date the 15th day of August 1872, and made between the Secretary of State for India in Council of the one part and Rustomjee Ardesir Wadia of the other part the holding being for a term of years to expire at the end of twenty-one years from the 1st day of May 1870 at the annual rent of Rupees (314-6-0) three hundred and fourteen and annas six with right of perpetual renewal every twenty-one years, but at such rent either to be decreased or increased as the said Secretary of State should think fit to receive subject however as to a portion of the said premises to a demise dated 10th September 1846 and made between one Cursetjee Rustomjee Wadia of the one part and one Jeejeebhoy Dadabhoy of the other part at the yearly rent of Rupees 290 (two hundred and ninety).

SECONDLY.—All that piece or parcel of land or ground situate adjoining the land lastly herein above described namely at Verzagon in the Island of Bombay in the sub-district of Bombay containing by admeasurement three hundred and twenty-six square yards on or thereabouts assessed under Collector's old No. 410, Collector's New No. 11690 and old survey No. A-736 New survey Nos. 3296, and bounded as follows That is to say on or towards the East and West by the property of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company on or towards the North by the Mazagon Bunder Road and on or towards the South by the property firstly herein before described which said premises were formerly and are now vacant and are subject to an annual payment to Government of Rupees (10-3) ten and annas three and subject also as to a portion of the said premises to be herein before mentioned demise dated 10th September 1846.

LOT No. IV.

All that right title and interest formerly possessed by Sumsoodin Moola Hakimjee in and to the piece or parcel of land or Government ground with the messuage tenement or dwelling house built thereon situate lying and being without the Fort of Bombay on the west side of Baba Dhuboo Street in the subdistrict of Bombay which said premises were formerly in the occupation of Rahimanjee Khanbhai Ghellabhai Khanbhai and Ahmedbhoy Tajbhoy and now in that of the tenants of the Defendant Vallibhai Khanbhai and registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under Collector's old No. 2718 Collector's New No. 9718 old Survey No. 1236 New Survey No. 4451 and assessed by the Collector of Assessment formerly under No. 53 and now under ward No. 6875 Street Nos. 137, 139 and 141 containing by admeasurement one hundred and forty-two square yards and three-ninths of another square yard or thereabouts and bounded as follows. That is to say on or towards the east by sweeper's passage on or towards the west by Baboo Dhuboo Street aforesaid on or towards the North by a passage abutting on the house of Ramtas Money Bawa and on towards the south by the house of Caderbhoy S Ilemanjee.

LOT No. V.

All that piece or parcel of land situate on the Elphinstone Estate in the Island of Bombay containing by admeasurement Five hundred and forty-six and seven-ninths square yards and bounded as follows: That is to say on or towards the north by land in the occupation of Beg Mahomed trading under the name of Abdul Rajman Sallay Mahomed on or towards the south by land in the occupation of Dadabhoy Hormusjee Dubash on or towards the east by Akbar Street and on or towards the West partly by land in the occupation of Rajaram Gowirdraw and Tyabally Sullaymanjee and partly by land in the occupation of Dadabhoy Hormusjee Dubash which said premises are assessed by the Collector of Land Revenue under No. 3186 and are situate in the registration sub district of Bombay and were formerly and are now in the occupation of the said lessee and which said premises are demised by and comprised in a certain Indenture of Lease dated 29th January 1889 and made between the Trustees of the Port of Bombay and Vallibhai Khanbhai.

LOT No. VI.

The Steam Launch "Mary" bearing B No. 4011 of nineteen tons burthen.

LOT No. VII.

The Steam Launch "Tristy" bearing B No. 4320 of 36 54/100 tons burthen.

For further particulars and conditions of Sale application should be made at the Office of the said Commissioner or at the Office of Messrs Nanu and Hormusjee Attorneys for the Plaintiff above named at No. 89 Medow Street Fort Bombay.—Dated this 24th day of January, 1899.

G. H. FARRAN,
Commissioner.

BOMBAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 3m. Sun sets, 6h. 11m. High water, 8-15m., 9-16a. Low water, 2-34m., 1-50a.
The Plague Commission, Secretariat.
Municipal Standing Committee, 3-30 p.m.
Bombay Millowners' Association, annual meeting, 5 p.m.
Meeting of the University Senate, 5-15 p.m.
Art Society's Exhibition, Town Hall.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for Ceylon, Strait Settlements, China, and Japan, per extra s. s. Marques Bacquehem, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 3 p.m., to-morrow.

THE LATE MR. JOHN MACFARLANE.—The offices of Messrs. Edgelow, Gulabchand, and Wadia, solicitors, High Court, were closed on Monday, out of respect to the memory of the late Mr. John Macfarlane, who was formerly connected with the firm.

MUSIC AT THE ART EXHIBITION.—The following is the programme of music to be played at the Town Hall, Art Society's Exhibition, this evening, at 5 o'clock:—

March	Tivoli	Schroder
Overture	La Gazza Ladra	Rossini
Valse	Girls of Vienna	Ziehrer
Polka	Off we Go	Ch Coote
Fantasia	Fair Rowena	W Rimmer
Valse	Ma Belle Adore	D Roy
Extract		Clauns
Galop	Harum Scarum	Cassady

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT TO A CHILD.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the Coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at Sarang Street, regarding the death of Toolsee, a Hindu girl, aged eighteen months. The child resided with her mother, a basket-maker, at Sarang Street. About 6 o'clock, on Monday evening, the deceased was playing with her elder sister, Bhima, in the street, in front of the house. Just then a labour cart laden with wooden cases came along the street from the direction of the Crawford Market. Bhima ran across the street in front of the cart, and the deceased followed her, crawling on her hands and knees. The driver pulled up his bullocks, but before he could stop the cart one of the wheels passed over the child. Deceased when picked up was unconscious and bleeding from the nose and mouth, and died almost immediately. A verdict of accidental death was returned by the Jury.

THEFT ON BOARD A VESSEL.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, Inspector Walton charged Baboo Dewroo, a coolie, before Mr. J. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, with theft of two rolls of print muslin, forty yards each, of the collective value of Rs. 20, from a case in No. 2 hold of the steamship Australia, now lying in the Victoria Dock. Mr. Charles Miller, the chief officer of the vessel, said that the property stolen by the accused formed part of the cargo which they were discharging. The accused was working amongst the stevedore's labourers on the previous day on board the vessel. About 1-30 p.m. that day, the police brought the accused to witness with the two pieces of muslin. Witness went with the accused and the police to No. 2 hold, where the accused pointed out an open case. Witness examined the case, and found two rolls of muslin missing from it. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge, and was sentenced to one month's rigorous imprisonment.

AN UNTRUSTWORTHY NEPHEW.—Before Mr. P. H. Dastur, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, at the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Wasudeo Sawlaram, a young Hindu, was charged by Inspector Mayers with stealing Rs. 200 in currency notes and cash belonging to Barick Maloba. The complainant is a wood-merchant, and resides at Mahim. The accused is his nephew. Some time during the last week, complainant proceeded to an up-country place, leaving accused in charge of the house. During his uncle's absence, accused opened a box with a duplicate key, and abstracted therefrom currency notes and cash, of the value of Rs. 200. He then proceeded to Bombay, and out of the money stolen purchased wearing apparel and several articles, such as a lady's gold watch and gold chain, a gold pencil, gold rings, collars, neckties, etc. He also spent about forty rupees in drinking, etc. When complainant returned from up-country, he found the nephew living in a high-fashioned style wearing the gold watch and chain, and putting on English boots, and neckties and collars. The complainant's suspicions being aroused, he examined his box, and found the money missing. He reported the matter to the police, who arrested the accused, and recovered property worth Rs. 165-3. A few rupees were spent by the accused in settling his debt. On being placed before the Magistrate, the accused admitted the offence. Mr. Boyce, pleader, who appeared for the complainant, said that his client did not wish to press the charge, and asked the Court to deal with the accused leniently. The Magistrate sentenced the accused to one month's rigorous imprisonment.

TWO SENTENCES FOR ONE OFFENCE.

A FULL BENCH OF SEVEN JUDGES.

A FULL bench of seven Judges sat last week at the High Court to consider a reference made by the Hon. Mr. Justice Parsons and the Hon. Mr. Justice Ranade in the case of Imperatrix vs. Malu Arjun and another. The Judges constituting the Court were: Mr. Justice Parsons, acting Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Candy, Mr. Justice Ranade, Mr. Justice B. Tyabji, Mr. Justice Fulton, Mr. Justice Russell, and Mr. Justice Starling, Mr. Coyajee (*amicus curiae*) appeared for the accused, and the Government Pleader for the Crown.

It appeared that the two accused were tried for the offences, under sections 380 and 457 of the Penal Code of theft and house-breaking in having, on the night of the 4th February last broken open the lock of a house belonging to a man, named Sittaram, and entered the premises with the object of commiting the theft of rice valued at R. 1-8-0. They were in the act of removing the rice when they were discovered and were pursued and arrested. They were originally charged before Mr. Paranjpe, Second Class Magistrate of Mahim, in the Thana District, and being found guilty by the magistrate of theft and house-breaking were each sentenced to fifteen days' rigorous imprisonment for each of the offences. The District Magistrate of Thana made a reference of the proceedings to the High Court holding the double sentence to be an illegal one under the amended Criminal Procedure Code. The reference came on before Mr. Justice Parsons and Mr. Justice Ranade, who before disposing of it, referred to a full Bench the following two questions:—(1) Whether a person, who had committee housebreaking with intent to commit theft, and theft, could be charged with and convicted of both offences; and (2) whether a separate sentence could be passed in respect of each offence? provided the aggregate sentence did not exceed the punishment provided by law for each of the offences?

The following is the full text of the judgment of the full Bench, delivered by the acting Chief Justice: We are of opinion that the first question should be answered in the affirmative. We are also of opinion that, looking at the illustration and explanation added to section 35 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898, it is the intention of the Legislative that a court, in awarding punishment under the provisions of section 71, Indian Penal Code, should pass one sentence for either of the offences in question, and not separate one for each offence; but if two sentences are passed and the aggregate of them does not exceed the punishment provided by law for any one of the offences, or the jurisdiction of the court, we think that that would be an irregularity only, and not an illegality requiring interference by a court of appeal or revision.

The court decided that under the full Bench ruling as above, the sentences need not be altered; and that the record and proceedings should be returned.

A TRIPLE OFFENCE.

IMPERATRIX VS. KAMA RAMA WAGH.

This was an appeal from decisions of Mr. M. B. Tyabjee, Sessions Judge of Thana, who, on the 6th December last, convicted the accused of voluntarily causing hurt, of robbery, and of theft, sentencing him to two years', one year's, and six months' rigorous imprisonment for the three offences.

The theft was committed by the accused after having made preparations to cause hurt or fear of hurt. The evidence proved that accused came up to loaded carts, used threating language, brandished his sword, and finally took from one cart, without permission of the man in charge, some sweetmeat, etc. The crime was committed in broad daylight. The cartmen were too frightened to identify the accused whose face was covered. The accused partially admitted to the magistrate having committed the crime. Before the Sessions Court, he retracted the confession and said:—"An offence of nose cutting took place in a man's house. About six months had elapsed since that. But at that time he did not lodge a complaint at all. Afterwards I was sentenced by the Sirkar for having been concerned in an offence. Six months passed after that, and then a complaint was lodged. In that matter even false witnesses were got up and were compelled to give false evidence. In this way tyranny has been exercised on me for nothing. I have not really committed the offence. But as the police people very severely beat and ill treated me, through fear I made a confession before the committing magistrate." The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty on all the three charges, and the accused was sentenced as mentioned above.

Their lordships, on a consideration of all the evidence, summarily dismissed the appeals.

BOMBAY MILLOWNERS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL REPORT.

THE report of the Committee of the Bombay Millowners' Association, for the period from 1st January to 31st December 1898, was issued on Saturday morning. It continues:—

COTTON DUTIES AND TARIFF ACTS.

Representations were made to the Association in September 1898 that the tariff values fixed by Government, under the provisions of the Cotton Duties Act, 1896, for the descriptions of cotton goods specified in the Notification of the Finance and Commerce Department, No. 677 S. R., dated Calcutta, 13th February 1897, were not in accord with the prices realized by the local mills in the open market. Seeing that the prices varied from half-an-anna to one anna per pound, the Committee addressed the Bombay Government on 7th October 1898, suggesting that the Government of India be approached with a view to the revision of the tariff values in respect of the articles mentioned, and that in event of Government's acceding to the request, the Association be allowed the opportunity of examining the revised rates prior to their publication. The following are the articles referred to:—

Description.	Tariff values. Per lb. As.	Average Prices realised in the Market. Per lb. As.
Dhoties with colored borders over 1-1 inch, but not exceeding 1½ inches	8	7½
Blankets and Blanketing (raised), grey	9	8
Blankets and Blanketing (raised), colored	10	9
Colored goods, including Checks, Susi with colored weft, Calicut Cloth, Cholis, Charsas, Card Drill, Galatis, Leheria, Saris, Thana Cloth	10	9
Flannelettes	10½	9
Napkins	8	7½
Drills and Jeans, striped or Checked	8	7½
Striped Grey Cloth, Colored Stripes, including ordinary Susi	8	7½
Towels, Turkish	9½	9
Towels, other sorts	8	7 1-2
Fents, grey	6 1-2	6
Fents, fancy	8	7

The Committee are indebted to Government for a copy of the tables relating to the production of yarn and woven goods in the cotton mills of British India and Native States for 1897-98, which is included in the Appendix.

They were also favoured, towards the end of the year, with a copy of the Report on the Working of the Indian Cotton Duties Act in the Bombay Presidency for 1897-98, from which the following information is extracted:—"There was a considerable increase in the amount of yarn spun over the return for 1896-97 and a slight increase over the return for 1895-96. This increase was heaviest in the counts up to 24, and also considerable in the finer counts up to 40. On the other hand, in the finest counts from 41 to 80, there was a decrease which is attributed not to the discontinuance of weaving fine cloth, but to the use of English yarn in perference to importing raw American and Egyptian cotton and spinning it here. The figures of cotton goods show only issues from the mills, so that it is impossible to ascertain the actual amount woven during the year. The total issues, though doubtless considerably less than in 1895-96, appear to have slightly exceeded those of 1896-97, but there was a considerable increase in the amount of duty collected owing to the large decrease in the issue of free goods under Section 41 of the Act. There now remain only about 1,000,000 lbs. of duty-free goods in stock; this should in all probability be all cleared off during the current year. The total loss of revenue to Government from the beginning, by the exemption under Section 41 of the Act, may be estimated at two lakhs of rupees. Taking the figures for Bombay and the mofussil separately, the issues in Bombay are estimated to have decreased by 14 per cent., and in the mofussil to have increased by 4 1-2 per cent. on the previous year's figures. When it is remembered that the previous year's issues in Bombay were considerably less than those of 1895-96, it will be seen that the effect of two years of plague on the industry in Bombay has been serious. It is reported that the duty was realised without difficulty, and it is satisfactory to note that there was considerable improvement in the punctuality with which the mills submitted their returns during the year."

The attention of the Committee of the Bombay Millowners' Association was called in September 1898 to a notification issued, under date of 15th July 1898, by the Collector of Land, Revenue, Customs and Opium, Bombay, to the effect that the payment of all draw-backs under rule 23 of the rules under the Cotton Duties Act, 1894, should in future be paid to the exporters and not to the Agents as heretofore. In addressing Government on the subject, the Committee pointed out that the practice hitherto had been for the Customs authorities in Bombay to insert in their monthly Bills for Excise Duty an allowance for draw-back on goods exported, or to issue a claim sheet in the name of each exporter and send it under cover to Agents of Mills, who, after obtaining on it the signature of the exporter and an authority from him to receive the amount, collected it from the Excise Office in the usual way. This system worked exceedingly well, and gave general satisfaction; but, under the new arrangement, it was pointed out, Agents of Mills would be put to needless inconvenience if the authorities insisted in paying the draw-back direct to the exporter, to say nothing of the confusion and complication likely to ensue, and the risk to which Agents were likely to be exposed. Under the circumstances, the Committee wished to know the reasons which induced Government to alter the present system of payment of draw-back, and, pending further consideration of the matter, the Committee requested Government to authorise the Customs authorities in Bombay to revert to the old system which had worked smoothly and harmoniously.

Under date of 14th January 1899, the Committee received a reply from Government, accompanied by a communication from the Collector of Land Revenue, Customs and Opium, explaining the circumstances under which the notification in question had been issued; and as the matter is of importance to members, the Committee give below the reasons which induced Government to alter the procedure in regard to the payment of draw-back to exporters instead of the Agents of the Mills. The Collector in his report stated as follows:—

"Under the old system referred to by the Millowners' Association, the Excise Office issued a claim sheet in the name of each exporter and sent it under cover to the Agents of the Mills, who were then bound to get the exporter's signature on the claim sheet and an authority from him to receive the due amount; and on this being done, the Agents received the money from this office. The Agents' claims, however, were limited by Section 51 of the Sea Customs Act; that is to say, they were not allowed to receive any sum due for draw-back unless they preferred their claim and produced their claim sheet, duly signed by the exporter, within six months after the goods were actually shipped. Now, from the time that the plague epidemic broke out, the Mill Agents experienced great difficulty in preferring their claim for payment within the period of six months, inasmuch as the exporters, in almost every case, fled from Bombay, and left behind no clue to their whereabouts; and the Agents of Mills, in consequence, were unable to obtain their signatures to the claim sheets within the proper period. Their claims for payment of draw-back consequently became time-barred, and this office was constantly receiving letters from Mill Agents praying for an extension of the six months' period, to enable them to find out the whereabouts of the exporter. Extensions were granted in several cases during 1896-97 in view of the hardships sustained by Mill Agents in the matter, though no fault of their own. But during the year 1897-98 as the same difficulties were experienced by Mill Agents, and similar petitions for extension of the six months' period were sent to this office, the whole subject was reviewed by the Collector who decided that this office had no authority whatever to grant extensions of the period laid down in Section 51 of the Sea Customs Act, but that, in view of the unmerited loss which would be sustained by Agents, if the rule was strictly enforced, some alteration of the procedure was necessary. In consequence, the new procedure was introduced, which is practically the same as that hitherto existing, with this exception that, whereas formerly the Mill Agents' claim was time-barred after the lapse of six months from the date of export of the goods, it is now not time-barred till a period of three years has elapsed since the date of preparation of the export bills. The Mill Agents are really benefitted by the new system, and it is not apparent in what way they will be subjected to extra trouble or extra risk. I would also bring to your notice that the Millowners' Association are in error in stating that this office will, under the new system, pay draw-back to the exporter only, for they have overlooked the words 'or to his duly authorized Agent' in the notification of July 15, 1898, to which they refer, and have therefore failed to understand that if the Mill Agents receive the requisite authorization from the exporter, they can prefer their claim to, and receive the due amount from, this office, as under the old system. Under the new system, the Mill Agent must produce his authorization from the exporter at the time he comes to claim the draw-back bill, *i.e.*, before the exporter has had time to disappear in outlying districts, and the Mill Agent, if he holds this authorization, must come and claim the draw-back bill in person or by Agent at this office. The extra trouble thus involved cannot be of a serious nature, and in any case must be considerably less than the difficulties formerly experienced in which constant applications had to be made to the Collector that the claim might not be time-barred."

In acknowledging receipt of the papers, the Committee thanked Government for affording them an opportunity of reading the Collector's report, and stated that it had placed the innovation clearly before the members as an advantage rather than the reverse. The Committee, however, suggested that, with a view to obviating misapprehension in future, it would be an advantage if the Collector were to communicate to the Association any proposed orders and regulations in which the members were likely to be interested.

EXCISE DUTIES UPON PIECE-GOODS.

The question of the possible abolition of the import and excise duties upon piece-goods in Bombay has been the subject of renewed deliberation by the members of the Association and retains their most vigilant attention. The expediency of approaching Government on the subject was discussed; but it was felt that as the improved financial outlook offered reasonable hope of Government's spontaneously removing those charges, action might best be postponed till declaration of the budget programme. There can be no doubt that the duties in question press so heavily upon the industries affected as to have virtually arrested from the date of their institution all development in the weaving trade of Bombay. In 1896, when the duties were imposed there were in Bombay 21,335 looms in work. At the present time there are only 21,379. It is believed that Government will recognise the obvious meaning of these figures, but to them must be added a note of the fact that very many of those looms on paper are and have for long been at a stand still.

INDIAN MARCHANDISE MARKS ACT.

In the report for 1897, reference was made to the method proposed by the Government of India for testing the measurement of imported yarn in the administration of the Indian Merchandise Marks Act, and, in reply to an enquiry from the Government of India, dated 11th January 1898, the Committee stated that the proposal had their entire approval. Accordingly, under Notification No. 2887 S. R., dated 30th June 1898, the Governor-General-in-Council, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 19 A, Sub-Section (2) of the Sea Customs Act, and Section 20 of the Indian Merchandise Marks Act, was pleased to direct that the following rules should be substituted for rules 7, 8 and 9 of the rules published with the Notification of the Government of India in the Finance and Commerce Department, No. 1430, dated 6th April 1891:—"(7.) An examination of yarns to test the accuracy of the description of count or length shall be made, in the first instance, up to the limit of one bundle in every one hundred bales or fraction of one hundred bales in the consignment. (8.) If on such examination the difference between the average count or length and the described count or length is in excess of the variations permitted in paragraphs III and IV of the Notification of the Government of India in the Home Department, No. 1474 (Judicial), dated the 13th November 1891, the importer may require a further examination to be made up to the limit and on the conditions stated in rule 9. (9) The test to determine length of yarns shall be applied as follows: From every one hundred bales, or fraction of one hundred bales in a consignment, one bundle should be selected at random. The hanks in this bundle should then be measured on the wrap-reel, one after the other, in the presence of a representative of the importer, and the lengths noted, the process being continued (within the limit of the bundle) until either the importer is satisfied that the yarn is short, or the average of the lengths noted shows that it is of full length. When the importer is dissatisfied with this test he may, on payment of the cost, require the Customs' Collector to measure more hanks up to 1 per cent. of the total number of hanks in the consignment, such hanks being taken at random by an officer of Customs out of any bundles in the consignment.

(*To be concluded.*)

A CASE OF BIGAMY.

AN IMPORTANT JUDGMENT.

AT the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Mr. P. H. Dastur, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, delivered judgment in a case in which one Moulvi Najafali Khan charged Saidbi Fatmabi, Ahmed Shah, and Rahimbux Saidabi with bigamy, and the rest with abetment of the said offence. Messrs. Nasarullakhan and H. S. Khalil, barristers-at-law, appeared for the complainant, Mr. Mir Aunali and Mr. Cursondas Chhabildas, barristers-at-law, defending the accused.

It appears from complainant's statement that the complainant was a Moulvie and resided at Bellasis Road. He married the first accused about four years ago. Since then he had been residing with his wife and her grandmother, the second accused, in a house at Mustan Tank Road. A month after the marriage complainant went to the Deccan, where he remained for four months. On his return he found his wife and her grandmother missing from his house, and on enquiries he learnt that his wife was married to Rahim bux, the fourth accused, and that they were living as man and wife. From further enquiries he ascertained that the marriage ceremony was performed in the house of the third accused by *Naib* Kazi of Null Bazaar. Complainant called witnesses to prove his marriage with the first accused but in cross-examination they all completely broke down and failed to identify Saidabi as the girl married to complainant. Messrs. Aunali and Chhabildas, in addressing the Court, urged that the accused being a minor could renounce the first marriage on attaining majority. Mr. Aunali relied on I. L. Reports 19, Calcutta, page 79, while Mr. Chhabildas quoted I. L. R. 6, Bombay, page 126, in which it was held that the mere presence of persons at an illegal marriage or the grant of accommodation did not constitute abetment of bigamy.

His Worship, in delivering a lengthy judgment said he had carefully gone through the evidence, recorded by his predecessor (Mr. S. B. Spencer) as by himself. There was legal defence with regard to that, that a woman could be held guilty if she did not repudiate her first marriage performed during her minority. His Worship having commented at length on the evidence said that the facts of the case were hopelessly weak. Complainant and his witnesses had signally failed to prove the identity of Saidabi, and the manner of the witnesses in the box, together with the descrepancies in the evidence, fully satisfied him that even if the witnesses had deposed as to the identification he would not have believed them. The regular Kazi was not called to perform the ceremony, and all the witnesses had said that no questions were asked and no answers were given by either the bride, the bridegroom, or the agent. These facts, together with the conduct of the complainant in sleeping over the matter for four years, as well as the want of proof of second marriage, raised strong doubts as to the marriage having taken place. His Worship accordingly discharged all the accused.

THE ARMY RACQUET CHAMPIONSHIP.

THE eighth annual competition for the Grand Military Racquets Championship attracted huge company to Prince's Club during the first days of March. During the second round Mr. White for the Engineers, was injured by a ball struck by his partner, with the result that the fourth game was not completed. The holders are the 12th Lancers, and the 2nd Battalion of "The King's" Shropshire Light Infantry met them on March 12th. The results to hand are:—

FIRST ROUND.

2nd Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers (Capt. A. W. Thornycroft and Mr. M. McConaghey) beat 2nd Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment (Capt. E. F. Rowe and Mr. J. Leader) by four games to three with scores of 13.4 to 13,5, 13,5 to 13,2, 15 to 12, 15 to 3, 11 to 5, 11 to 15, and 15 to 8.

Royal Engineers, Aldershot Division (Messrs. J. R. White and J. J. H. Nation) walked over. 3rd Battalion Coldstream (Guards scratched.

2nd Battalion "The King's" Shropshire Light Infantry (Lieut.-Col. Spens and Mr. E. M. Sprott) beat 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards (Major the Hon. A. H. Henniker-Major and Mr. H. W. Studd) by four games to love, with scores of 15 to 4, 15 to 11, 15 to 2, and 13,3 to 13'2.

Royal Horse Artillery (Messrs. Kincaid Smith and W. L. Elwes) a bye.

SECOND ROUND.

2nd Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers (Capt. A. W. Thornycroft and Mr. M. McConaghey) beat Royal Engineers, Aldershot (Mr. J. R. White and Mr. J. J. H. Nation) by 4 games to love, with scores of 15 to 4, 13.5 to 13.4, 13.5 to 15.1, and 12 to 4.

2nd Battalion "The King's" Shropshire Light Infantry (Lieut.-Col. Spens and Mr. E. M. Sprot) beat the Royal Horse Artillery, E. Battery (Mr. K. Kincaid-Smith and Mr. W. Elwes) by 4 games to love, with scores of 15 to 2, 15 to 0, 15 to 9, and 15 to 13.

Mr. T. H. Browning, Lieut.-Col. Oatby, and Capt. Bertie Roberts were the umpires.

THIRD ROUND.

2nd Battalion "The King's" Shropshire Light Infantry (Lieut.-Col. Spens and Mr. E. M. Sprot) beat 2nd Battalion Royal Scotch Fusiliers (Captain A. W. Thorneycroft and Mr. M. McConaghey) by 4 games to 0, with scores of 15 to 10, 15 to 2, 15 to 0, and 15 to 6. Colonel Spens and his partner were superior at all points, the former making some wonderful returns in the the rallies, and the subaltern serving with great accuracy.

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NOTES FROM RAJPIPLA.

THE "SARDARKUVARBA POOR ASYLUM" AT NANDOD.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

GODHRA, MARCH 17.

MR. W. DODERET, I. C. S., the able and popular Political Agent of the Rewa Kantha Agency, laid the foundation-stone of the Sardarkuvarba Poor Asylum, which has been endowed by His Highness Maharana Shri Chhatrasinhji, Raja of Rajpipla, in memory of the late lamented Maharani Saheb Sardarkuvarba, on the 15th instant. The Political Agent arrived here on the 12th from Godhra, the headquarters of the district after having been engaged on plague work at that place. The plague at one time threatened to assume most serious proportions at Godhra, but Mr. Doderet, on his return from privilege leave about the end of January, lost no time in taking effectual measures and working against heavy odds, and, self-sacrificing zeal, he was completely successful. The Bohras—an important but somewhat turbulent section of the community—were likely to give trouble in connection with the complete evacuation of the town, but the firm and thorough, though at the same time conciliatory and very considerate manner in which Mr. Doderet's measures were carried out, proved thoroughly effectual without causing the least excitement. "Fortiter in re, suaviter in modo" and "thoroughness" are the watchwards which should guide every officer who has to deal with the plague. Where thoroughness is sacrificed to "expediency," entirely successful results need not be looked for. The enlightened ruler of this State has throughout acted on this principle, and has, so far, been successful in keeping the plague out of his territory, though it has always been present on one side or another of it in a more or less virulent form. This complete immunity enjoyed by the premier State in the Agency, notwithstanding the above circumstance, is reported to have given great satisfaction to the Political Agent.

The "Sardarkuvar Asylum" will supply a long felt want and will prove a great blessing to those unfortunates whose right to sympathy and relief is apt to be too often ignored in this age of education. This will be only one of the many works of discriminating charity of the enlightened and noble-minded ruler of the State who, in the brief period of two years that he has been Raja, has shown himself to be extremely solicitous for the welfare of his people and has made himself widely and deservedly popular. The foundation-stone of the Asylum was laid at a grand durbar held on the site.

His Highness commenced the proceedings by addressing the Political Agent in the following terms:—Permit me, Mr. Doderet, to ask you to do me the favour to lay the foundation-stone of the Sardarkuvar Poor Asylum. The association of the institution with the name calls forth sad recollections of a virtuous and noble life brought, unfortunately, to but a too early grave. The object of the institution, however, is one which at all times commanded the heartiest sysmpathy of the deceased lady, and it seemed appropriate to attach her name to the institution. The Asylum is intended for the infirm poor of all classes who have no one to take care of them and whose infirmities render it impossible for them to take care of themselves. Accommodation will, for the present, be provided for fifty inmates, who will be lodged, fed and clothed in the Asylum, and will be at liberty to earn a little money for themselves by doing such light work as they can. The building will be so constructed as to permit of easy expansion whenever more accommodation is needed, and the strictest attention will be given to its sanitary arrangements. As designed for present requirements, it is estimated to cost about Rs. 10,000 and the maintenance charges of the Asylum will come to about Rs. 5,000 per annum. I might add that the institution will be entirely distinct from an Asylum for lepers, which I hope to be able to provide at no distant date. This will be about the last public function, for some time to come, at which I shall have the honour of addressing you, Mr. Doderet, and I hope you will excuse me if I take this opportunity to express the sincere regret which we all feel at the near prospect of the Rewa Kantha Agency losing—for the long period of two years—a Political Agent to whom it owes so much. Hard and continuous, conscientious work like yours, however, absolutely needs a period of rest and recreation, and I heartily wish you the fullest and happiest enjoyment of your extremely well-earned holiday, and hope that you will soon be back amongst us in renewed health and vigour to continue the good work that you have done for the people and princes of this part of the country. I thank you most heartily for the trouble you have so kindly taken to oblige me in the midst of your heavy and anxious work by presiding at this function to-day.

Mr. Doderet, having complied with his Highness' request and declared the stone to be well and truly laid, addressed the assembly. In doing so he referred in touching terms to the virtues and charitable nature of the late lamented Maharani, and eulogized the administration of his Highness. The Political Agent referred to other works of public utility carried out or contemplated by his Highness, and dwelt particularly on a scheme for the free supply of water to the people of Nandod which is at present under execution.

An adjournment was then made to the High School, where prizes were distributed by the Political Agent to the boys and girls of the several schools in the town which have an aggregate number of pupils on the register of more than eight hundred. The prizes were numerous and valuable, thanks to the generosity of his Highness, who takes the keenest interest in education and encourages it by every means in his power. Before the distribution of the prizes a well arranged programme of recitations was gone through by the students. There was afterwards an evening party given by his Highness in honour of the Political Agent, who left immediately afterwards for Chandod, en route to Godhra and Dohud. Mr. Doderet was to have proceeded from here to the Sankheda Mehwas of the Rewa Kantha Agency, but the news of suspected plague cases having occurred in another important town of the Panch Mahals District caused him to hurry back to the latter. Mr. Doderet's approaching departure from these parts on long leave is widely and sincerely regretted, and his Highness but gave voice to the general sentiment on the subject in the allusion he made to it in his speech.

PLAGUE COMMISSION IN BOMBAY.

THE Plague Commission, consisting of Professor T. R. Fraser, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., president; Mr. J. P. Hewett, C.I.E., I.C.S.; Professor A. E. Wright, M. D.; Mr. A. Cumine, I.C.S., and Dr. M. A. Ruffer, re-assembled, yesterday morning, at the Secretariat, for the purpose of examining a few more local and up-country witnesses.

Captain C. G. Spencer, R. A. M. C., Lieutenant Douglas, I.M.S., Lieutenant Walton, I.M.S., and Lieutenant Liston, I.M.S., who are all on special duty under the order of the Plague Commission, submitted the results of their experiments made by them in the laboratory on the various serums. The Commission adjourned till to-morrow.

BENGAL CAVALRY RACES.

THE Bengal Cavalry Races, at Umballa an institution held in connection with the Native Cavalry Polo Tournament, have been revived. There is a great gathering of the Senior Regimental Officers and the Native Cavalry, and a capital chase course has been laid out beyond the Artillery lines. There was a good muster of spectators mostly on horse back who galloped round, watching the progress of the big chase. It was unfortunate that a fuller card was not arranged, but next year this will be rectified. The "Grand Annual" was attended with some disaster at the outset. The first fence is on the elbow, and as each of the field was anxious to get quickest round the bend, all made for the corner of this fence. Two got over and the dust thrown up obstructed the view of the pair following, both of whom blundered into it. Captain Thornton's Winnie fell into the ditch on landing at the side, and has been severely injured. The "Pony Chase" unfortunately failed to bring out a field. The 10th Bengal Cavalry were "At Home." The following are the details of the racing:—

1ST RACE.—"The Native Cavalry Grand Annual Chase." For a Challenge Cup, value fifty guineas, presented by Colonel Arthur Broome, late 18th Bengal Lancers. Distance 3 miles.

Mr Pritchard's Black Jess (11st. 4lbs.), Owner 1
Major Collin Campbell's May Fly (11st 9lbs.) Owner 2
Major Western's Henetian (11st. 13lbs.), Owner 3
Captain Thornton's Winnie (12st.), Owner .... (fell)

Black Jess attended by May Fly showed the way, then later tiring a mile from home, Black Jess, who was fancing beautifully, came in a winner by ten lenghts. A bad third.

2ND RACE.—"Bengal Cavalry Polo Scurry." For ponies played in the Native Cavalry Polo Tournament of 1899. Value Rs. 100. Distance 3 furlongs.

Mr. Rivett Carnac's Thakur Singh (10st. 11lbs.), Major Collin Campbell 1
Captain Thornton's Seena (9st. 13lbs.), Colonel Gartside Tipping 2
Captain Crocker's Carnatic (10st. 3lbs.), Mr. Marsh 3
Captain Thornton's Solitaire (11st.), Mr. Marsh 4

Seena led from the start till turning the bend into the straight Thakur Singh caught up and after a great finish between the two riders Thakur Singh won by a neck. Two lengths between second and third.

3RD RACE.—"Native Cavalry Lilliputian Grand National."

Captain Crocker's Carnatic (10st. 7lbs.) .... W. O.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague. Attacks.	Plague. Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A Upper, Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	12		
B Mandvi, Chuckla, Oomerkhadi and Dongri	26	12	43
C Market, Dhobi Talao, Fanaswady, Bhuleshwar, Khara Talao and Kumbarwada	37	13	38
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpati, Walkeshwar and Mahaluxmi	29	15	27
E Mazagon, Tarwady, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	61	21	79
F Parel, Sewree and Sion	7	7	17
G Mahim and Worli	30	14	35
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	79	92
Total	202	168	337
Total plague deaths to date	40,318	35,648	
Same date last year	138	172	316

BANDORA.

There were 5 attacks and 4 deaths from Plague reported within the limits of the Bandora Municipality on Sunday, 6 attacks and 3 deaths on Monday, and 2 attacks and 3 deaths yesterday.

The Vice-President Bandora Municipality, accepts with thanks some flannel suits and shirts presented by Mr. E F. Allum, and also a donation of Rs. 20 from a Parsee gentleman, for the patients in the Plague Hospital. Other similar donations in the shape of clothes, wines or cash will be thankfully received.

PRESIDENCY PLAGUE MORTALITY.

THE cases of plague and deaths therefrom reported to Government during the week ending 17th March, were as follows:—

Cities.	Cases.	Deaths.
Bombay	1338	1,038
Karachi	138	103
Poona	99	73
Districts.		
Ahmedabad	6	3
Panch Mahals	39	17
Kaira	105	74
Broach	53	42
Surat	33	28
Thana	313	230
Khandesh	47	43
Nasik	...	...
Ratnagiri	17	14
Poona	17	14
Kolaba	53	44
Satara	116	125
Kanara	24	15
Sholapur	16	12
Ahmednagar	4	3
Belgaum	95	73
Dharwar	77	73
Bijapur	23	27
Political Agencies.		
Baroda	221	151
Kathiawar	6	4
Kolhapur	128	113
Cutch	31	25
Palanpur	0	3
Janjira	2	2
Sachin	...	...
Aundh	5	2
Total	3,095	2,501
Week ending March, 10	3,090	2,585
Total to date	239,192	189,534

Karachi, Hyderabad Sind, Shikarpur, Upper Sind frontier, Thar and Parkar districts, Mahi Kantha, Rewa Kantha, Savantvadi, Dharampur, Akalkot, Bhar and Savanur States were free during the week.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE s s Tantallon, 1,353 tons, Captain J Berry, sailed yesterday for Naples and Genoa with a general cargo.

THE B I S N Co's s s Ujina, 2,426 tons, Captain G F Withers sailed yesterday for Calcutta in ballast.

THE s s Wagner, 2,203 tons, Captain Edward Cave, cleared yesterday for Marseilles, with a general cargo.

THE s s Netherfield, 2,021 tons, Captain W H Allayne, arrived in harbour yesterday from Port Said, 6th March in ballast.

THE Florio-Rubattino S N C's s s Bormida, 1,499 tons Captain G Delava, arrived in harbour on Monday evening from Hongkong 28th February, (with a general cargo) and 21 deck passengers.

THE B I S N Co's s s Dumra, 762 tons, Captain J W Living, stone, arrived in harbour yesterday from Karachi 18th March via Kathiawar Coast ports, with a general cargo and Mr and Mrs Doig Mr D H J Rustomjee and 2 friends and 95 deck passengers.

ARRIVALS.

Mar	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
20	Bormida s	Delava	Hongkong, Feb 28.
21	Netherfield s	Allayne	Port Said, March 6.
	Dumra s	Livingstone.	Karachi, March 18.

DEPARTURES.

Mar.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
21	Kola s	Robertson	Karachi, etc.
	Dura s	Mitchell	Rangoon.
	Tantallon s	Berry	Genoa.
	Ujina s	Withers	Calcutta
	R I M S Canning	Baugh	Karachi
	Wagner s	Cave	Marseilles

The following vessels entered for loading yesterday:—
Steamer Bormida, for China, etc.
" Netherfield, for Marseilles, Dunkirk, etc.
" Agapanthus, for Genoa, Marseilles, Liverpool, etc.
" Dumra, Karachi via Kathiawar coast ports.

DAILY IMPORTS.—MARCH 21.

FROM GLASGOW.

Clan Macrae s—101 barrels chemicals Goolam Hoosein Allibhoy.

FROM LIVERPOOL.

Clan Macrae s—100 cases chemicals Essoofally Mahomedally and Co.

FROM LONDON.

Arabia s—6 cases soap, etc. H Haroon and Co, 5 cases varnish K A Carrim, 37 cases whisky M P Baria, 13 cases stationery Thacker and Co.

FROM HAMBURG.

Rothenfels s—10 cases medicine Sorabjee P Ghandhi, 21 cases stationery H Sooleman Habib, 9 cases glassware M Hassum, 28 bales printing papers E Mohomedally, 11 bales papers Abdool K Essabhoy.

Johannesburg s—4 casks rectified spirit Eduljee Bezonjee.

FROM ANTWERP.

Rothenfels s—4 cases mill boards A Abdool Cader, 6 cases earthenware and 7 cases glassware Rahim Somjee, 25 cases glassware Ebram Narjee, 261 cases window glass S Essoofally, 50 cases glassware S Mohomed Cassum, 77 cases glassware G Hoosein Cullian, 282 cases window glass Allibhoy Noorbhoy, 10 cases writing paper Abdoollee Cassumjee, 20 cases writing paper M Esajee, 40 cases matches A Shaikadum.

FROM GENOA.

Manilla s—75 cases brandy D Dadabhoy.

FROM MARSEILLES.

Manilla s—3 casks ink A H Kikabhoy.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR G. W. ROUGHTON, A.D.C., COMMANDING B. V. A.

Bombay, 22nd March, 1899.

1. There will be class firing at Coorla to-morrow (Thursday.) Train leaves the Victoria Terminus at 6 a.m. and Byculla 6-12 a.m. (local time.)

By Order,
A. J. PIELE, Capt., R. A.
Adjt. B. V. A.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LIEUT.-COLONEL E. F. NICHOLSON, COMMANDING, B. V. R.

Bombay, 22nd March, 1899.

1. The annual Inspection of the Corps by General Officer Commanding, will take place on Saturday the 25th instant. Fall in at the Gymkhana end of the Parade Ground at 4-15 p.m.

Dress—Review Order—Khaki.

Every member who is not on leave is required to be present or to furnish a medical certificate.

2. Rifles brought to Head-quarters by members will be cleaned and re-issued to them within a few minutes after receipt.

3. The Colonel Sir Lyttelton Bayley's Drill Challenge Cup competition for Cadet will take place on the Parade Ground in front of the Gymkhana at 5 p.m., on Saturday the 8th April.

4. As the arms, &c. will be returned to the armoury after the Inspection, members are requested to bring their Jags and sight protectors in their pouches to parade on Saturday next.

By Order,
C. MOSS, Captain,
Adjutant, B. V. R.

DIVINE SERVICE.

LENTEN SERVICE.—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22.

SAINT THOMAS' CATHEDRAL.

6 p.m.—Litany and Sermon by the Reverend C. M. Barham

MISSION CHURCH, GIRGAUM.

6 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon by Rev. L. B. Butcher

LAWRENCE & MAYO'S

'NEUTRAL-TINTED EYE PRESERVERS.'

ARE the best PROTECTION to the EYES from Sun and Dust, especially to those who are travelling in the tropics, or whose vocations require them to be out in the heat of the day. They will be found an invaluable preventative to inflamation of the Eyes and irritative fever.

OPTHALMIC OPTICIANS,
BY APPOINTMENT
To H. E. The EARL OF ELGIN and KINCARDINE,
Viceroy and Governor-General of India.
OFFICES IN INDIA.
CALCUTTA. BOMBAY. MADRAS.
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BLUTHNER PIANOFORTES
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THE MOST PERFECT PIANOFORTES IN THE WORLD.
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"It affords me the greatest pleasure to testify that the GRAND PIANOFORTES manufactured by JULIUS BLUTHNER more than justify their world-wide reputation. They combine the most pure and refined tone with enormous power; and every gradation of tone, from the most ethereal pianissimo to the loudest fortissimo, can be perfectly produced by them. In short, their touch and repetition are so perfect as to enable the artist to produce the most beautiful effects."

MARCKS AND CO., LD.,
SOLE AGENTS,
BOMBAY AND POONA.

NEW PICTURES.
BATTLE SCENES.

Rorke's Drift	By	A de Neville.
Tel-el-Kebir	„	do.
Return from Inkerman	„	Miss Elizabeth Thompson.
Balaclava	„	do.
Quatre Bras	„	do.
[illegible] or Ever [illegible]t Scots)	„	do.
Greys at Waterloo)	„	do.
To the Memory of Brave Men (Last Stand of Major Wilson)	„	Allen Stewart.
Kassassin	„	R Caton Woodville.
Storming of Badajos (1812)	„	do.
Charge of the Light Brigade	„	do.
Guns to the Front	„	Stanley L Wood.
Naval Heroes of Great Britain (1795)	„	Douglas Cooper
Charge of the Heavy Brigade	„	G D Giles.
Nelson's Ship in the Battle of Trafalgar	„	J M W Turner, R. A.
Omdurman (Charge 21st Lancers)	„	Stanley Berkeley.
Atbara (Charge of the Cameronians)	„	do.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Love Letter	By	Luke Fildes, R. A.
Order of the Bath (Dogs)	„	C Burton-Barber.
For the Safety of the Public (A Pup muzzled)	„	E Caldwell.
A Football Match	„	W H Oerend.
Companion to above	„	do.
Henpecked (Dog and Hen)	„	R Morley.
Roused (Lions)	„	H Dicksie
The Captive	„	Sir Jas Millais, P R A.
The Sisters Kiss	„	Sir Fred. Leighton, P R A
Civtie	By	Lord Leighton, P R A, (His last Picture.)
"Roses" and "Ivy" (Companion)	By	Herkomer, R A.
Corona	„	C E Perugini.
Atalanta's Race	„	E J Poynter, R. A.
Uncle Tom and His Wife for Sale(Dogs)	„	Sir Edwin Landseer.
Geordie Sits in Charlie's Chair (Dogs)	„	Ed Douglas.
Old Man's Darling (Dogs)	„	W H Trood.
A Plaintive Duet(Dogs)	„	do
A Dead Head(Dogs)	„	A J Elsley
Goodbye (Dogs)	„	do.
"Wait a Minute" (Dogs)	„	do.
La Source	„	Marazolle.
A Credit to His Family (Dogs)	„	Stanley Berkeley.
A Disgrace to his Family (Companion to above)	„	do.
First Sight of the Fox (Pups)	„	S Carter.
The Good Shepherd	„	W C Dodson.

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ESPLANADE ROAD.

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TOBACCONISTS,
BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.
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CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO SPECIALITIES.

TOBACCOS
Put up in ¼ lb. Patent Air-tight Tins
JESSAMINE.
"LOG CABIN."
MAY BLOSSOM.
GOLDEN BIRDSEYE.
LILY OF THE VALLEY.
PRIZE MEDAL BIRDSEYE.
VIKING NAVY CUT (Full).
VIKING NAVY CUT (Medium).
FLAKED GOLD LEAF HONEY DEW

CIGARETTES.
JESSAMINE. Put up in air-tight tins, containing 50 cigarettes, with a holder.
MAY BLOSSOM. Put up in air-tight tins, containing 50 cigarettes, with a holder.
NEEDLE POINT. Each packet containing 10 cigarettes, wrapped in foil with a nice picture.

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Opposite the Bombay General Post Office.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 21.

Consols advanced 1-8 per cent. in London yesterday, to 110 9-16. French Rentes remained at 102 1-4; but Paris Exchange on London declined 1-2 centime, to 25·22 1-2 fcs. Rupee Securities, 3 1-2 per cent, were 3-16 per cent. higher, at £67 7-16; and Indian Sterling Loan was unchanged at 114 1-2. Exchange on India at 30 days' sight continued at 1s. 3 13-16d. Discount on Short London Bills at 3 months' sight was quoted at 2 5-8 per cent, and on 6 months' sight Indian Bank Bills at 2 3-8 per cent. Bar Silver was unchanged at 27 9-16d. per oz.; while in New York the price of the Metal was 1-8 cent lower, at 59 3-4 cents per oz., with demand Exchange on India unchanged at 4·85 1-4 dollars.

For Linseed the quotation was 36 1-2s. per 416lbs., April-May shipment, to Dunkirk, sellers via the Canal, market quiet in tone.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed easier, Surats dull, Arrivals quiet. The day's sales were 10,000 bales; and the Imports 4,000 bales. Spot prices were without change; but American Arrivals declined 1-64 to 1-32d, extreme quotations being 3 9-32d. for March and 3 19-64d. for July-August delivery. The Manchester Market closed quiet but steady.

In New York Ready Mid-Uplands declined 1-8 cent, to 6 3-16 cents. per lb; June Futures 11 points to 5.91 cents, and September 9 points, to 5·91 cents, also. The Receipts at the U. S. Ports were 20,000 bales; and the Arrivals to date compare as follows with those in 1898 and 1897 :—

	1899.	1898.	1857.
Monday's Receipts	20,000	19,000	8,000
Two days' do.	39,000	39,000	23,000
Since 1st September	7,383,000	7,753,000	6,153,000

Although the local Cotton market has been open to-day, little or no business has transpired, only 200 bales Broach at Rs. 154 per candy, being reported on account of the Mills. The tone of the market is dull.

Wheat and Seeds.—A small business has passed to-day in a steady market. Prices are unchanged.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay on Sunday and yesterday were as follows :—

Cotton	18,215	bales.
Wheat	19,581	cwts.
Linseed	17,730	„
Rapeseed	8,008	„
Gingellyseed	6,370	„
Poppyseed	893	„
Groundnuts	713	„
Castorseed	8,678	„
Rice	9,778	„

The Exchange Banks and Stock and Share Markets have been closed to-day for the "Jamshedi-Naoroz' holiday.

THE LIVERPOOL [illegible]

Messrs. Tata and Company's Liverpool agents, in their letter of the 3rd March, report on the state of their cotton market as under :—

The waxes question in Lancashire is developing very slowly. No new feature is expected until about 10 days hence, the leader, of the operatives having convened a meeting to decide on the advisability of a general strike: Meanwhile the who'e of the Lancashire operatives have handed in their notices which will expire towards the end of this month.

The American reports are distinctly Bullish, and great stress is laid on the glowing accounts from the American Spinning and Weaving centres.

"With regard to the old crop, the accounts of irreparable damage to the cotton in the fields are confirmed from every quarter, and the total loss by the wretched weather is variously estimated at from half to one million bales. The stocks in uncounted Interior towns and on plantations are said to be smaller than for years and our friends are well aware that the stocks at the ports and the 28 counted Interior towns are not at all excessive.

The New York stock has remained stationary for many weeks now and as we already pointed out in our Circular Letter of the 9th November last there seems to be a splendid opportunity for a bold operator to corner the New York early summer months. There are already signs of manipulation and these will become more evident with the approach of August.

The preparations for the new crop are very backward, in fact more so than they were in 1895 and the weather is still far from favourable. Sales of fertilisers and mules are said to be very small, the seed is reported damaged by frost, labour is scarce in some parts, and factors and bankers are said to be adverse to making fresh advances. Farmers, we hear, have not often before been in such a precarious and impecunious position. In former big-crop years farmers, factors and exporters sold largely at the higher prices ruling at the beginning of the season and increased quantity recompensed the former for the price he had to accept later on. This year the South scanned by the 12,000,000 figures so persistantly circulated, oversold itself at bottom price. Whereas the decline from Early September to beginning of November was only about half a cent, prices advanced thence until now about 1 1-4 to 1 1-2 cent, and as a natural consequence the exporter and farmer lost heavily. This advance did not help the farmer much, as most of the cotton left to him, as far as it was not yet sold, was still out in the fields and may be there yet,—but in what condition?

All this we hear day after day from a wide circle of correspondents all over the States. These reports are so unanimous that we sometimes feel sorely tempted to become Bull ourselves. If we could only see 3 3-4d. to 4d. before us, we should not hesitate, but we cannot see such an advance yet; in fact we cannot make up our minds to any price higher than those ruling at present. It is still so early in the season that a few weeks of favourable weather would put everything right and at present high prices farmers will not be able to withstand the temptation to plant another large crop. If the farmer is impecunious there is plenty of fresh capital waiting for investment in the States, and the spectre of another bumper crop would frighten bull operators away. Should the weather remain unfavourable for a little time longer, then we certainly should not be obstinate, and should be the first to recommend buying. Of course if any of our friends have satisfied themselves that the advent of 3 3-4d. to 4d. is probable, we shall only be too pleased to have their orders. They may be right, we may be wrong. We can only say, let us have a little patience until you or we can make up our minds. In order to come to a clearer view we have circulatized our agents in all the European spinning districts about the position of the Continental Spinners, and in 2 to 3 days, when we have received their replies, we think we shall be better able to judge.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORT.

March 21.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

Great Britain.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
Continent or Europe.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
America.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.
Australia.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.
China.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect. Via Bhamo, perfect.
Africa.—Via Aden, perfect. Via Cadiz Teneriffe, perfect Via Lisbon, St. Vincent, perfect.
Telegrams for Nicaragua are subject to censure at San Juan Del Sur and accepted at sender's risk.
Communication with Panaj Negros (Visayas Islands) restored. Telegrams subject same restation as Philippine Islands.
Private telegrams in secret language can be accepted for Philippine Islands but are subject to censure of United States Government.
Censure imposed at Manilla (Philippines) on all telegrams containing political news.
Till further notice telegrams in Code cannot be accepted for Bolivia.
Cable Newyork Haiti interrupted.
Cable Cayenne Pinheiros and Cayenne Paramaribo both interrupted. During interruption telegrams for Cayenne are posted from Paramaribo.

FOREIGN TELEGRAM REPORTS.

Latest dates of Foreign Messages received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m. of the 21st March, 1899.

[Difference in Longitude allowed for.]

Via	Latest Dates. D.	H.	M.	Time occupied in transmission. Hours.	Minutes
Turkey	20	5	40 p.m.	20	22
Teheran	21	1	55 p.m.	...	47
Suez	21	2	53 p.m.	...	7

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m. 21st March, 1899.

	Maximum Time. H.	M.	Minimum Time. H.	M.
From Calcutta	0	44	...	1
„ Karachi	0	17	...	4
„ Madras	0	57	...	5

THERMOMETER READINGS.

MONDAY NIGHT—March 20.

10 p.m.	78·4

TUESDAY—March 21.

6 a.m.	74·7
10 a.m.	79·5
2 p.m.	82·8
4 p.m.	83·2

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

EUROPE.

BIRTH.

POTTINGER—February 21, at Gibraltar, the wife of Lieut. R. S. Pottinger, Bombay, Political Dept., of a son.

BOMBAY.

DEATH.

KABRAJI—March 21, at the residence of her son Mr. K. N. Kabraji, Middle Colaba, Bai Mehrbai, widow of the late Mr. Nowroji Hormusji Kabraji, aged 76 years.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** All communications intended for publication in our columns should be addressed to the Editor and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1899.

The Sugar Bounties Bill has passed the Supreme Legislative Council by a unanimous vote, which it is safe to say will have the unanimous approval of all India. Sir James Westland supplemented the reasons, conclusive from the point of view of Indian interests adduced on the introduction of the Bill by reference to the memorial that came to the Viceroy from Mauritius. The sugar planters see with consternation that they are threatened with the ruin that has overtaken the West Indies from the same cause—the overwhelming competition of Continental bounty-fed sugar in their only market. They, therefore, prayed that the Indian Government should save them from destruction by legislation such as that which the Council has passed without a dissentient voice. It is true the Hon. Mr. P. M. Mehta would have preferred to see the Bill sent before a Special Committee, and the facts and statistics collected by officers of the greatest experience subjected to examination by gentlemen having no special knowledge of the subject. The suggestion was of service inasmuch as it elicited and placed on record satisfactory reasons for dealing with the matter at once. Thirteen per cent. of the land hitherto growing sugarcane has been thrown out of cultivation; a large number of refineries have been closed, and the rest are not prospering. If the cultivation of the cane be discontinued the difficulties in the way of starting it afresh are likely to prove insuperable, months of preparation and soaking being required to make the new plants take root. The object of appointing committees to consider Bills is not to get new views as to the policy of the measure proposed, but to get suggestions as to the best way of giving effect to the principles which the Council has approved. All that had to be done was to embody in the Bill the provisions of the United States Bounty Countervailing Act; the assistance of a special committee was not required for that simple operation. Moreover, the delay involved would have deferred legislation for a year, in addition to that already devoted to the inquiries which have satisfied the Government and the Council that legislation is necessary. The Viceroy made the effective point that it is a constant matter of reproach that Government are always making inquiries instead of getting things done—a reproach from which his Excellency means, if posible, to escape. It could be wished that the Bombay Corporation would make a similar resolution, and stick to it. On Monday, that body resolved to ask for further advice—or rather to inquire whether further advice can be obtained—in regard to the most urgent question of freeing the subsoil on which the City rests from the pollution that is so disastrously affecting its health and reputation—and meanwhile hang up the drainage scheme on which two years of labour have been expended. There is no question as to the sufficiency of the scheme. It has the approval of Mr. Baldwin Latham, who recommended similar works ten years since. The mania for "always making inquiries instead of getting things done" is the curse and peril of India and it is satisfactory that the Viceroy has resolved to set his face against it. The Presidency Governments will do well to follow that example and impress on the Municipal bodies which they have called into existence the wisdom of turning over a new leaf now that the plague has established itself in our great cities, and seems to be in no hurry to return whence it came. All public authorities should act on the principle that promptitude is of the first necessity when the public safety is menaced by any cause, even plague.

Lord Curzon, like Sir James Westland, refused to be turned aside from a necessary course by the specious and quite fallacious pretence that the principle of Free Trade was involved. His Excellency rightly holds that the principle is not sacrificed, but upheld by a measure that restores trade to its normal channels, from which it was diverted by foreign States, to their own profit and to our detriment. We regret to note that Mr. J. M. Maclean has committed himself to the advocacy of an exploded heresy. He even argues that a grave constitutional question has arisen because Lord George Hamilton has pointed out that a Bill passed by the Supreme Legislative Council becomes law in India when the Viceroy affixes his signature to it. The Royal assent may be withheld if the Cabinet, for any reason, disapproves of the measure. It is not easy to see how a constitutional crisis has arisen. Nothing has been done, or is contemplated, that is not provided for by Statute. We are loth to accept the *Times*' dictum that in this matter Mr. Maclean has identified himself with unsound and dangerous principles; but we have no hesitation whatever in expressing sincere regret that an old Anglo-Indian politician should place himself in opposition to a measure that has for its object the safeguarding of an important Indian industry. Even in so far as it incidentally benefits the sugar planters of Mauritius, it subserves the same end, for the bulk of the population of that Island are Indians by birth or race, whose livelihood depends on the retention of the Indian market for their sugar. We can understand the alarm and even the indignation of the German Agrarians at the prospect of seeing the Indian market closed against beet-root sugar, subsidised by the State. Probably they too, will appeal to the sacred principle of Free Trade, and complain that they have been unfairly dealt with by the passing of an Act which places a duty on their sugar, on which their own Government has placed a premium. The threat of reprisal by depriving India of the benefit of the most favoured nation clause in existing treaties, need not trouble us much. Two can play at that game.

We have already stated that when the tardy blue book on Muscat appears it will be found that the concession France has obtained is a concession of courtesy—and nothing more. We may even go further and say that the attitude Lord Curzon has taken up, in refusing to allow France to acquire for herself what was to have been nominally a coaling station, but which would inevitably have become in time a fortified naval base for operations in Indian waters, is only part of a policy on which our present Viceroy takes up the strongest attitude. The Muscat affair was one move in the long waiting game that Russia has been playing—latterly with France as her ally. It is a game that began in the remoter regions of Central Asia, and is connected with the stealthy move, now a mile, and now a furlong, with outposts thrown out at one time to cover a flanking movement, at another withdrawn to simulate retirement, but onwards ever, through the No-Man's Land which lies between Persia and Afghanistan, the objective an outlet for Russia into Indian waters. France wanted a naval base, not a mere coaling station on the coast of Oman. She has been refused the naval base, but is free to coal her ships in that part of the world whenever she likes. She has no trade in the Persian Gulf, nor in the Arabian Sea; nor has Russia. Russia nevertheless also wants a naval base. As we have pointed out, she holds quite a different position from her ally, inasmuch as the Russian frontier runs with that of Persia in the north and north-east and she may hope one day to establish railway connection between her own territory through Persia, down to the Gulf. She may with a certain plausibility claim that her territory is the hinterland of the Gulf, and that she requires an outlet for her produce and trade on that side as well as in the watersof the Pacific. France has no territory or foothold in the region, and it was therefore an act of temerity for her to expose herself to a rebuff by procuring a cession from the Sultan of Oman to which Great Britain could and probably would, take energetic exception. It remains to be seen whether Russia will profit by the lesson France has received and abstain from pursuing her designs in that quarter. There is good reason to believe that if France had succeeded in possessing herself of the convenient harbour of Bundar Jisseh, which certainly would have been strengthened by degrees, and ultimately fortified, Russia after a decent interval would reach down from the north on Bunder Abbas. That ambitious Power is never in a hurry; now that it has been clearly shown that a premature move on that side would be met by energetic resistance, she will probably adjourn the execution of that part of her scheme of aggression. The Indian press generally, and some of the home papers besides, have been crying out that England has given way. Nothing could be better than that they should do so. Are not France and Russia our very good friends? And do we not desire to keep them so? Now that the misunderstanding regarding what England would or would not tolerate in Eastern seas has been cleared up, the more that the English press and men of the stamp of M. Delcasse himself, can be induced to tell our friends that they have once more triumphed, the better it will be for the amenity of our international relations. It was one thing for French and Russian statesmen to make a mistake, and to have the sense to withdraw from it, and quite another to allow it to be supposed that anything of the kind had happened. It was this that Lord Salisbury meant when he regretted that so much publicity had been given to the matter. If at one time a certain little British cruiser cleared for action, and if at another a solitary boat's crew of blue jackets waited at the mouth of a desert creek on the Oman coast with a Union Jack that was to be run up if a Frenchman hove in sight, to claim what was under dispute, these are incidents that are best forgotten now.

The persons in receipt of famine relief in Rajputana now exceed 6,500, though emigration continues, and already 4,313 villages have left their respective gaums. The week's season report, however, shows that agricultural operations are progressing satisfactorily except in Merwara, and the state of the crops is generally good, except in Ajmere-Merwara. Cattle are generally in good condition. Fodder is scarce in Sirohi, Marwar, Kherwara, Meywar, Harauti, Ajmere, Jeypur and Bikanir. Prices are rising in two States, falling in one, and are steady elsewhere. Emigration from the distressed Ajmere villages and from Merwara continues, and 112 persons emigrated during the week. It is from these exceptional districts that the emigrants are fleeing and that relief works are necessary, Ajmere alone laying claim to 5,200 of the destitute. The Bombay return shows that rain fell in parts of Sind and one taluka of Dharwar, and has proved beneficial to the late crops in Shikarpur and the Upper Sind Frontier. The standing crops, however, have been damaged by high winds or drought in parts of Sind and by rats in parts of Bijapur. American cotton has been blighted in two talukas of Dharwar, but the harvesting of the late crops is progressing in seventeen and preparations for next season are being made in eleven districts. Cotton picking continues in parts of Gujarat, Kathiawar and the Karnatik. Fodder is sufficient except in parts of Sind and Baroda, and prices, which have risen in three districts, have fallen in six. In Punjab, Bengal, the North-West and Central Provinces prospects are generally favourable, though Delhi and one or two other districts report the failure of crops owing to want of rain. In Madras the water-supply is generally sufficient, the standing crops good, fodder sufficient, the harvest yield almost normal, condition of cattle satisfactory, and prices almost stationary. One or two districts of other provinces are becoming solicitous as to the prospects of the water-supply during the hot weather, but everywhere cultivators are preparing for the coming monsoon sowings.

The Presidency Plague returns this week show smaller figures all round except in the three great cities and Thana district. But taking into consideration Bombay, Karachi and Poona the net result is an increase of five attacks and of 84 deaths, the totals being 3,095 cases, of which 2,501 were fatal. Bombay figures fluctuated from 1,242 and 1,092 to 1,338 and 1,068; those of Karachi city rose from 88 and 56 to 138 and 103, whilst Poona city returns 90 and 73 against 62 and 53. Thana figures have gone up from 242 and 203 to 313 and 260. The most noticeable decreases were in Satara, Dharwar and Belgaum; appreciable falls being also reported from Khandesh, Nasik, Ratnagiri, Bijapur, Kolhapur, Palanpur and Baroda. Janjira, which was free last week, now reports two fatal indigenous cases; three attacks this week being also recorded among Europeans. Detection of cases at railway stations has been brisk, 33 passengers having been taken out of the trains, 25 dying. These were all discovered at Kalyan, Palghur, Anand and Poona.

By this mail comes news of an important medical discovery at the Berlin Bacteriological Institute, which, if true, will probably lessen the mortality amongst cases of pneumonia. Professor Wassermann, a pupil of Professor Koch, is said to have discovered the serum for the cure of pneumonia, which, according to experts, is caused by the pneumo-coccus baccilus. Dr. Wassermann inoculated rabbits with this, and with the serum thus gained he inoculated mice infected by pneumonia. After prolonged experiments he discovered that it was the red marrow of the bones in which the production of the anti-toxin took place, and the most promising discovery is that the red marrow taken from a human subject dead from pneumonia, and used as serum, will cure mice infected with that disease. Professor Wassermann thinks, therefore, he has reason to hope that the serum discovered by him will also prove effective with human beings. Provided the tidings are true, such a discovery should be cause for thankfulness throughout the civilised world, but in view of many previous disappointments, jubilation would be premature.

Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Low, Commanding the Forces, Bombay Command, proceeding on a tour in Sind and Quetta Districts, accompanied by Brigadier-General Barlow, Deputy Adjutant-General, Poona District; Major Stanton, Military Secretary; and Captain Low, A.-D.-C., arrived at the Victoria Terminus, yesterday morning, at 6 a.m. Thence they proceeded to the Yacht Club, where they remained till 3 p.m., when they embarked on board the R. I. M. S. Canning, which soon after weighed anchor. The Lieutenant-General's arrival and departure were private. Two salutes of 15 guns each were fired from the Saluting Battery to announce the arrival and departure.

With a view to preventing the possible introduction of plague into Simla by the removal of the public offices from Calcutta to the hills, the Government of India has decided that all Government officials and departmental subordinates must be examined at the Howrah Railway station when, if pronounced in good health, a certificate will be given to each passenger. This will be countersigned at Kalka, where a second examination takes place. All persons will also be carefully observed at Simla up to ten days from the date of leaving Calcutta. Servants' apparel will also be disinfected at Kalka. These regulations apply only to Government Departments.

The moral effect of Captain Roos-Keppels, raid on the Chamkannis writes the "Pioneer" has been very great all along the Kurram border. The day after it had occurred the Mussozai, Alisherzai, and Zaimukh tribes all sent in their maliks to the Native Assistant Political Officer in Lower Kurram to ask if there were any score against them, as they would like to pay up at once. Their representatives naively explained that they did not mind punitive expeditions very much, as they always got plenty of notice regarding these and could bury or carry off everything of any value; but that the new system of counterraiding was a different kind of thing: it was as if they were living under an avalanche which might overwhelm them at any moment. The maliks left for their homes eventually assured that no evil would befall them so long as the tribesmen behaved properly, but in every village now sentries are posted day and night to give warning of the approach of any column. There is likely to be no trouble for a long time to come with villages which are within striking distance of Kurram. The proclamation to the Chamkannis has been widely circulated notifying the terms of Government. It has yet to be seen whether they will pay up and make formal submission. This will depend to what extent the Mirza, Darya and Haji Khel sections can put the screw upon the Khani Khel who are the owners of the rifles that are demanded by Government. The three sections named have been sorely punished, and the deportation of over 100 of them to India has made them most anxious to submit. The rude and lawless Khani Khel, safe from everything except an expeditionary force, may refuse to fall in with the views of the other sections, but tribal opinion may be too strong for them in the long run.

On the night of the 9th instant, a band of outlaws, supposed to be Mahsuds, broke into a house in the village of Jander Izzat Sheikh in the Dera Ismail Khan district, and having bound the occupant, as well as his wife and son, decamped with five bullocks and a cow, of the total value of Rs. 150, the tracks leading through the Zam pass.

The East Indian Railway Company have allowed another eight lakhs of rupees provided in the estimates by the Government of India to go unspent before the close of this financial year. This makes up over half a crore of rupees which the Company's officials have been unable to spend since April 1st 1898. Such a fact hardly appears consistent with the complaints we hear from time to time of the Government having neglected to provide the company with sufficient funds for its ordinary necessities.

During the Queen's stay at Nice her Majesty's ship Venus, (Captain, Sir Archibald Berkeley Milne, Bart.) will be stationed there. Sir Archibald was formerly commander of the Royal yacht Osborne, and is the eldest son of the late Sir Alexander Milne, Admiral of the fleet, the officer who commanded the Channel Squadron when the ill-fated low free board ship Captain went down off Ushant some years ago. Sir Archibald was A. D. C. to Lord Chelmsford in the Zulu campaign, and, although only forty-five years of age, is one of the most promising officers in the service.

At a meeting of the Lahore Municipal Committee held on the 18th instant the draft of an address to be presented to His Excellency the Viceroy on his visit to Lahore was considered and adopted. It is a very brief production, which of itself is no small recommendation.

On Monday next, Mr. Fisher Unwin will publish the story of the ill-fated Maine, written by her Captain, Charles D. Sigsbee. The gallant author believes that the explosion was external, which is contrary to the Spanish theory. But he does not "locate" the responsibility. Some time later the same publisher will bring out Lieutenant Hudson's story of how he sank the Merrimac, an attempt at "bottling up" of the Spanish fleet. Indeed, the signs are overwhelming that the actors and witnesses in the Cuba and Manila campaigns will go on "reminiscing" for many a year to come.

It is understood, says the Berlin correspondent of the *Daily News*, that the Emperor William has abandoned his intention of visiting Italy this spring. It is mysteriously intimated that his Majesty has special reasons for dropping this journey.

The Darmstadt correspondent of the *Standard* is assured that the rumours of the Czar being in such a bad state of health that he is unable to attend to affairs are quite unfounded. His Majesty has been very delicate, and has suffered from occasional fits, which, however, have become rarer during the last few years, so that their complete cessation may be hoped for within a certain time. His chief anxiety has of late been the condition of the Empress, who is expecting her confinement, and it is mainly for this reason that he does not, at present, personally sign all State documents. It is quite possible that the disquieting reports are traceable to certain highly placed persons in St. Petersburg, whose plans would be materially disarranged should the Czarina give birth to a son.

The Paris correspondent of the *Standard* says that the ex-Queen Ranavalo of Madagascar has been allowed by the French Government to remain in Marseilles before proceeding to Algiers. Her Majesty apparently enjoys sightseeing, and is being most courteously treated by the French officials. General Metzinger, who commanded the Occupation Corps after Antananarivo was taken, was yesterday cordially received by the ex-Queen.

The strike of students of the St. Petersburg University and high schools as a protest against arbitrary ill-treatment by the police and the policy of the new Minister of Public Instruction, continues and is the subject of serious discussion in the Council of Ministers.

Mrs. Gully's reception, following the Speaker's full-dress dinner last night, was as gay and crowded as ever. Since Ministers have been dining, the first of these receptions is usually counted a Ministerial gathering. But last night there was a considerable attendance of the other party as well. Mr. Balfour and many of his colleagues stayed late and were apparently not ill-satisfied with themselves. But the Speaker's and Mrs. Gully's hospitality makes all parties cheerful.

The Paris correspondent of the "Times" telegraphed on March 2:—The Government announces to-night semi-officially that the object of the domiciliary visitts ordered by it is the dissolution of the various leagues. Hitherto they have existed only on sufferance, and the Government having decided to suppress them, hesitated as to which one of two possible ways to effect this end was the best. It chose the judicial method, because, according to the "Temps," at the start the prosecutions resulting from M. Deroulede's escapede called the attention of the judicial authorities to the illegality of the existence of the League of Patriots. The Government thought it better, therefore, to adopt a uniform line of conduct in regard to all the leagues. It proposes to obtain the declaration by the Courts of the irregularity of the existence of these leagues, formed in contravention of Clause 291 of the Penal Code. The suppression of the leagues will naturally and necessarily follow.

In fact, the difficulties are found to be so comparatively slight that Mr. Bagley has estimated that the Kunlon-Yincho section, the most difficult section of the projected line to Tali Fu, would cost only 6,250*l.* per mile—a rate one-third less than the estimated cost of the recently sanctioned French line from Tonquin to Yunnan Fu. The distance by rail from Kunlon to Tali Fu would be less than 300 miles. Mr. Brodrick has told us that the Chinese have conceded us the right to construct 700 miles of railway in their province of Yunnan. The extra 400 miles would carry the railway far beyond Yunnan Fu towards the Yang-tse, whether it took the roundabout way via Tali Fu, or the more direct and probably far easier route via Chintong. A turnpike toll equivalent to ten and eleven per cent. on the value of our goods is charged on them when passing through Tonquin. This charge alone, in the case of our cotton piece-goods, would more than twice cover the cost of carriage from London to Yunnan Fu, if the Burma railway were continued to that place. Such a toll must tell heavily against the extension of British trade with Western China.

The *Saturday Review* of Feb. 25 says:—It is curious to find from Mr. Gibson Bowles's speech in the House of Commons that railway construction in the western parts of China is still cold-shouldered on account of the enormous engineering difficulties assumed to exist. Of course such statements are a mere reverberation of Lord Salisbury's astonishing statement to the deputation from the Associated Chambers of Commerce which waited on him last June. As a matter of fact, English and French engineers are in the field selecting the best paths for railways leading from Burma on the one hand and from Tonquni on the other, to Yunnan Fu, and thence to a navigable point on the Yang-tse Kiang. Lord Salisbury's views were evidently based on his remembrance of the report given of the engineering difficulties of the Bhamo route by the late Mr. Colborn Baber. That, however is not the route which would be taken by the railway. Lord Salisbury had apparently forgotten that three years previous to the receiving the deputation an officer of the Government of India's Intelligence Department had tracked out a route leading from Kunlon, the terminus of the Rangoon Kunlon Railway, to Tail Fu, by which only one pass would have to be crossed, and that involving an ascent of only 2,400 feet in eighteen miles, and a descent of 1,766 feet in twelve miles.

Mr. Hatch, M.P., has consented to deliver a lecture upon the beneficial effects of the British occupation of India before the Manchester Geographical Society on Friday, March 17.

Don't praise your wife to your friends. This advice may well be addressed to the majority of young married men. They are so very much married, so entirely wrapped up in the "best little girl in the world," their conversation is so exclusively directed into household channels, that they become an object of amusement to their more experienced friends and a bore of the first water to their bachelor acquaintances. Say your pretty things at home, my Benedicks, lay all the incense at the shrine of your goddess, but spare the outside world a detailed description of your raptures.

Earl Grey will be presented at the Levee next week on his appointment to be Lord-Lieutenant of Northumberland. This office was held for thirty-one years by his uncle and predecessor in the earldom, Henry, Earl Grey, who was appointed in 1847 by Lord John Russell on the death of Hugh, Duke of Northumberland. The late Earl Grey resigned in 1878, when Lord Beaconsfield appointed the late Duke of Northumberland to be his successor. It is understood that the present Duke of Northumberland did not wish to accept the Lord-Lieutenancy, as he intends to close Alnwick Castle for some time to come, and will not live in the county during that period. The office would have been offered to the Earl of Tankerville but for his great age, the owner of Chillingham being now in his eighty-ninth year.

Senor Sagasta on March 1 tendered to the Queen-Regent the resignation of his Cabinet, and explained that, owing to the existing divisions among parties, it was impossible to carry on the Government with the existing Cortes. The Presidents of the Senate and Chamber were afterwards summoned to the Palace to give advice to her Majesty, who will consult some of the leaders of political parties. It is believed the Cortes will be dissolved, to meet after the elections, not later than May, to vote the Bill approving the Peace Treaty.

In a debate in the Chamber of Deputies on the conduct of the army and navy during the war, General Montes Sierra caused great excitement on Saturday, February 25, by declaring that if political leaders considered the country divorced from the army, then the army would know what to do. Senor Romero Robledo, amid prolonged applause, accused the general of threatening Parliament in the name of the army.

It was stated positively at one of the London clubs the other evening, according to the "Daily Mail," that the Mahdi's head was at the present time in the possession of a certain medical institution in Edinburg. Even more startling was the statement made by a very well-known member of Parliament who takes a great interest in all things that appertain to Africa that the other night he was shown one of the little fingers of the Mahdi's hand, which is now in the possession of an officer in the English Army living in London.

The "Echo de Paris" makes the important announcement that early satisfaction is likely to be accorded England in regard to Madagascar. M. Delcasse has, it seems, succeeded in convincing the Minister of Commerce of the necessity of giving way to England upon the Tariff Question. Sweeping changes will consequently be made in the administration of the island, the first result of which will be the recall of General Gallieni, who refuses to accept the new order of things. His successor will most likely be General Bailloud.

Colonel Wood is only one among a large number of officers who are contributing their respective shares to the forthcoming history of the war in the East and West Indies. General Shafter describes how he captured Santiago, Lieutenant Holman describes the Maine disaster, Captain Whitney the Porto Rico campaign, Lieutenant Calkins and General Merritt the Manila operations, while Captain Evans, of the Iowa, will tell how the Spanish fleet was "bottled up" in Santiago harbour, and then pounded to pieces in its mad effort to escape Fancy Wellington and Nelson coaxed for copy at the rate, say, of five hundred pounds a "thou."

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

BRITISH EXPEDITIONS IN AFRICA.

SUCCESSFUL AND OTHERWISE.

LONDON, MARCH 21.

In the House of Lords, yesterday, Lord Salisbury explained that owing to the Sudanese mutiny, it was thought wise to abandon the establishment of a military station on the Upper Nile by Major Macdonald, who consequently confined his operations to certain movements in connection with the exploration of Lake Rudolph.

Major Martyr's expedition, his lordship added, had been successful on the whole having reached Bedden where the Sudan commenced, and the expedition was expected soon to return to Uganda.

THE POWERS AND CHINA.

ITALY AND CHUSAN.

NO GENERAL AGREEMENT CONTEMPLATED.

MARCH 20.

In the House of Commons, to-day, Mr. Brodrick, in reply to questions relating to China, said it was understood that the Italian demands did not include the islands of Chusan which were subject to treaty engagements between Great Britain and China.

He also stated that no general agreement of the Powers interested in China was at present contemplated.

MARCH 21.

Mr. Brodrick when dealing with the questions in the House of Commons yesterday relating to China, said that Government was not without hope of an understanding being possible with Russia, owing to the friendly disposition shown on both sides.

THE THREATENED STRIKE IN MANCHESTER AVERTED.

The Lancashire cotton employers have granted an advance of wages to the operatives and the threatened strike has been averted.

THE NEW ITALIAN MINISTER TO CHINA.

Marquis Raggi succeeds Count Martino as Italian Minister at Peking.

LAND ORDINANCES IN CEYLON.

CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNOR DEPRECATED.

In the course of the debate in the House of Commons on the vote on account of the Colonial Office, Mr. Chamberlain deprecated the criticism of the Governor of Ceylon's conduct on the land question, and discredited the evidence of Mr. LeMesurier, the non-official members of the Council and the vast majority of the natives having accepted the principle of the Land Ordinances.

THE FIRE IN NEW YORK.

THE WORK OF THIEVES.

Testimony is accumulating that the fire in the Windsor Hotel, New York, was the work of thieves.

RESULT OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.

The Lincolnshire Handicap was run to-day and resulted as under :—

General Peace	1
Knight of the Thistle	2
Lord Edward II.	3

THE TROOPING SERVICE.

The transport Nubia has arrived at Southampton.

DEATH OF AN ENGINEER UNDER CHLOROFORM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

HYDERABAD, MARCH 21.

An unfortunate occurrence happened at the Afzulgunj Hospital yesterday morning. An assistant engineer named Cook, a young European employed in the Nizam's P.W.D., was placed under chloroform for an operation and died without recovering consciousness.

In the absence of Dr. Lawrie who is in Bombay giving evidence before the Plague Commission the case was undertaken by the House Surgeon, a Mahomedan, who is a skilful operator and chloroformist. The utmost endeavours were made to restore animation but without success. Mr. Hughes Second Assistant to the Resident, held an inquest later in the day.

The funeral took place this morning.

THE HYDERABAD JEWEL ROBBERY.

TUNNELLING INTO A ROOM.

With reference to the robbery at Hyderabad, in which it was stated that nine lakhs worth of jewellery and twenty-four thousand rupees in cash, were stolen from Raja Gyangir. I hear that the Police are hopeful of recovering the whole of the valuables that were stolen.

The robbers dug a tunnel leading into the room in which the property was kept and, though the place was well guarded, they managed to get away without any alarm being raised.

It is supposed that some of the *sowkars'* servants are confederates.

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PROTEST.

CALCUTTA, MARCH 21.

The following resolution was passed at a special meeting of the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce held on Monday afternoon:—In view of the recurrence and increasing intensity of plague in Calcutta, the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce regard with the greatest alarm the fact that the Calcutta Municipal Bill is being made a party question in the British Parliament. Political discussion inevitably results in delay, and for the protection of the lives of the inhabitants and the trade of the port, immediate measures for cleansing and keeping clean the town, and for better sanitation, are demanded. The Committee consider the political aspect of the question may well remain over for future discussion. While looking, therefore, to the local Government to adopt such immediate measures as they may think necessary to meet the emergency of the case, the Committee take the opportunity of assuring the Government that any measures they may take to accomplish the object in view will have the cordial and continued support of the members of the Chamber. It was also resolved that a copy of the foregoing be forwarded to the Government of Bengal.

SIR SALTER PYNE.

Sir Salter Pyne, who has been seriously ill, but was making a steady recovery, has now had a dangerous relapse. Indeed his medical advisers think an operation will be necessary.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS TO MR. CROWE.

POONA, MARCH 21.

Members of the Poona Bar presented a farewell address to the Hon'ble Mr. Crowe, Sessions Judge, this morning, in the Judge's Court. The address was read by Mr. Venketrao, Government Pleader.

Mr. Crowe, in reply, said : I thank you much for the kind words of congratulation and sympathy, as this is the last time, at all events for a considerable period, I shall preside over this court. I wish to take the opportunity of expressing my sense of the very able, upright, and conscientious manner in which you have discharged your professional duties to the public in this court. I shall often look back with satisfaction to the very cordial and harmonious relations which always existed between us during my long career, as I had, of judicial administration in this district. I have every hope that the same friendly and confidential relations will continue to prevail between you and my successor, Mr. Aston, who is already known to some of you. I thank you for your kind recollection of my wife, also your good wishes for our welfare. In bidding you good-bye, I wish you every happiness and prosperity.

POONA VOLUNTEER RIFLE MEETING

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

The annual distribution of prizes in connection with the twelfth annual Rifle Meeting of the Poona Volunteers was held this afternoon. Mrs. Phillips, wife of Major Phillips, commanding the Corps, gave away the prizes. A large number of ladies and gentlemen had assembled on the ground, and the Band of the corps was in attendance.

The gold medal was won by Color-Sergeant Hewitt, silver medal by Lance Corporal De Silva, and bronze by Corporal Mottabhoy Meakins. The Challenge shield was won by the C. Company ; also Rs. 54. Lord Harris' Challange Cup was won by B. Company ; as also the Palanpur Plate. Walker's Challenge Cup was won by Volunteer Samson, and the Miniature Shield by Volunteer Joseph Nicholson. Buller's Challenge Cup was won by Volunteer Merchant.

PLAGUE IN POONA.

There were 24 cases and 16 deaths recorded in the city, to-day, the total mortality being 32. In the Cantonment there was one case and two deaths ; in the district 5 cases and 5 deaths.

THE VICEROY'S COUNCIL.

DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.

CULCUTTA MARCH 21.

The legislative work of the cold weather Session of the Viceroy's Council is now completed, no Bills remaining to be brought up for next Monday's meeting, when the Budget will be discussed prior to the breaking up.

THE SUGAR BOUNTIES BILL.

THE RATES TO BE LEVIED.

The notification under yesterday's Bounties Bill is published, laying down the rates of duty to be levied in India on sugar from various counties. These rates vary from Rs. 9-2 per cwt. on sugar from the Argentine Republic to three annas on certain classes of sugar from Holland. The French sugar pays duty varying from Rs. 3-7 to Rs. 3-4 ; German sugar As. 1-6 to As. 15 3 ; and Austro Hungary sugar Rs. 1-5 to Rs. 0-14-0.

THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY.

Mr. Macpherson, the Legislative Secretary to the Government of India, returns from leave about the 1st April. Mr. Carnauff then reverts to the Deputy Secretarysship, while Mr. Williams, who has been officiating as Deputy, is placed on special duty to revise the Official record of the Enactment applicable to Native Territory.

THE PLAGUE IN INDIA.

CALCUTTA DECLARED INFECTED.

The general returns show a little over three thousand plague deaths in India in the week ending 19th instant. The Bombay Presidency reports 2,573 deaths, of which 1,064 were in Bombay City and 138 in Karachi. The Madras Presidency reports 70 deaths, mostly in North Arcot. Mysore State reports 142 the Mysore City having 85 and the Kolar Gold Fields 50. Hyderabad State reports 85 almost all in Lingsugur District. The Punjab reports five deaths in Jullundur District. Bengal reports 270 deaths, many of which, however, are only suspected, Calcutta having 187, and the districts around it 93, Howrah reporting 4, Hooghly 2, Dacca 41, Faridpur 18, Shahabad 2, the Pargunnahs 15, and Nadia one death.

The mortality from plague and suspected plague in Calcutta, yesterday, rose to thirty-four, deaths from all causes being 107, against an average of 78.

Mr. Holland has declared Calcutta infected.

MILITARY NEWS.

Second Lieutenant Syer, from the South Wales Borderers, officiates as Squadron Officer, 2nd Bombay Lancers.

Colonel Fletcher, Inspector- General, Ordnance Bombay, has applied to retire.

Captain Skinner, 2nd Royal Sussex, officiates as Station Staff Officer, Nussierabad, vice Major Wilkinson, who officiates as Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Quetta.

Captain Homison-Crawfurd, 7th Bombay Infantry, officiates as Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Bombay District, vice Captain Carnegy, invalided.

Mr. Shuttleworth, Conservator of Forests, retires from the service next month. Mr. Wroughton, who is on leave in England, most probably succeeds him.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

PLYMOUTH, MARCH 20.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Goorkha arrived here this evening.

ADEN, MARCH 20.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Danera left here yesterday evening.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, MARCH 20.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed easier. Surats dull.

Good Bhownuggur 2 23-32.

The Manchester Market has been quiet but steady.

$2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Consols	110 9-16
3 per cent. Rentes	$102\frac{1}{4}$
$3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Sterling Loan	114 1-2
$3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Rupee Papers	67 7-16
Bar Silver	27 9-16

The great Atlantic steamship "combine" seems to have broken up, and competition this summer may bring a trans-Atlantic trip within the means of the cheap-tripper. The "Times" correspondent telegraphed on March 2 :—The Cunard Line to-day announces that it will meet the reduction in rates started by the White Star and followed by the American Line. The minimum rate is now 60 dols. from New York first class. The change affects nominally but few cabins in each ship ; but it is believe that there will now be open competition for all classes of passengers between all three lines. The French and German lines hesitate, but must follow the English lead if they want American business. Open competition in the carriage of mails from England would be a still greater boon to the business communities both in England and the United States. When the combination broke up in 1875 emigrants were conveyed out as low as 3*l* a head.

SPORT IN ENGLAND.

THE SPRING HANDICAPS.

ENGLISH CUP TIES.

LEAGUE FOOTBALL MEMS.

VARSITY CHATTER.

LONDON, MARCH 3.

SPIRITED betting either upon the Lincolnshire Handicap or the Grand National cannot be said to prevail. I do not pretend to understand the demand for Uniform. He is, I know, a good-looking horse with a particularly bad English record. He has won no race since he reached English shores, and a trial at Foxhill could not yet have taken place. Therefore in his direction I prefer to keep an "open mind." Robinson cannot even now know that Uniform is a good horse, and it would not suprise me to find Bridegroom the best backed of his contingent. Prince Barcaldine now and again finds friends, and as a winner on the course he has to be respected. I question, though, whether he beat a deal last year, for Ravensdale won nothing, and High Treasurer, beaten a neck, was a disappointment all through the season. In fact, Prince Barcaldine headed a bad lot twelve months ago, and he does not strike me as the kind to win on a second occasion. Succoth is said to be going well at Newmarket. He is a trifle erratic, but is when in the mood a good type of the racing thoroughbred. Last year, he was far from developed, and I expect he will win a good race in the coming season. He certainly holds a chance for the Lincolnshire the equal of that of Hawfinch—a genuine candidate, I allow, but perhaps hardly sharp enough for the mile. Knight of the Thistle, I fancy, will not get to the end of the course, and it would not surprise me to find Huggins depending upon Berzak. Clipstone is in rare health, and he will take a deal of beating next month. Rookwood, of course, is thrown in. Thus at Lincoln he has 6st. 7lb, as against 7st 4lb in the "Jubilee" At Kempton his burden is the equal of that of Kopely. On the Carholme he gets 12lb from Raisin's charge. This, truly, is a big difference. I fear, however, that no little lad can manage Rookwood, not, be it said, certain to get a mile. I have no faith in Sallins ; nor do I think Yester-Year will last the journey. The backing of Dubuque in Manchester appears resonable. He has next to nothing to carry, and has won over the "Jubilee" mile. I think Kilcock will bloom later in the spring, while it would not surprise me to find Golden Bridge the selected of Mr. Rothschild's lot.

In many countries last week the closing day made some amends for very indifferent sport obtained previously. In a season which has been by no means remarkable for any considerable number of good runs followers of the Cottesmore have had their full share and have enjoyed perhaps more consistent sport than has been obtained with any other pack in the shires. A lawn meet at Leesthorpe Hall was arranged for Saturday, when a huge and representative field assembled. The proceedings at the start were somewhat tame, but a change came over the aspect of affairs when an outlying fox was viewed away, and hounds settled down to run towards John O'Gaunt station. Circling always to the left, they bore away past Owston, Somerby, through the Punch Bowl, and, invading the territory of the Quorn, reached Sir Francis Burdett's covert. Here the fox could not dwell—the pace was too good,—but on the Burton Flats hounds threw up their heads for the first time, and the check was quite acceptable to the field, for the pack had been running hard over a fairly stiff country. The line was soon recovered, and a capital hunting run, lasting nearly one hour and a half, terminated in a kill shortly afterwards. A very large field assembled at Carden Park on Thursday to meet Sir Watkin Wynn's pack, and those who came out to ride to hounds had a very enjoyable day. It was unfortunate that the second run could not be brought to a satisfactory conclusion owing to darkness coming on, but the morning was by no means barren of sport. Being thrown into Carden Cliff covert, hounds got away on good terms with a straight-necked fox, and streamed over the grass in the direction of Chester at a pace which forbade much music. Leaving Handley, they circled round Holywell to the Hooks, and they had been running in brilliant style for an hour when in Gamm's. Wood the fox effected his escape. The afternoon fox was found at the Hills, and after running a ring round by Braxton hounds made on for Duckington Wood. The pace at times was severe, and the hunt had lasted for nearly two hours when hounds were whipped off. If a sufficient number of entries are received, the House of Commons point-to-point race will take place on March 18, and the Guards' point-to-point race will be held over the same course, and probably on the same date. A course in the neighbourhood of Melton Mowbray will probably be selected.

The English Cup Ties on Saturday drew immense crowds together, as the following statistics show :—

	Attendance.	Receipts
Nottingham Forest vs. Sheffield United...	33,500	£1,400
Wolverhampton vs. Derby County	23,000	1,250
West Bromwich Albion vs. Liverpool ..	17,164	822
Stoke vs. Tottenham Hotspur	19,000	704

It will be admitted by all my readers, I feel sure that the best performance was that of Sheffield United. Unlike their "stable-companions," the Wednesday, they have not a reputation as Cup gladiators, their brilliant deeds hitherto having been mostly confined to the League. Now, however, they are building up a name of another sort, and even if they fall in the next round they will still be talked about for a long time to come as having administered the death blow to the holders of the Cup on their own ground. It may reasonably be argued that in knocking out Aston Villa and Everton Nottingham Forest accomplished a bigger achievement than did Sheffield United in disposing of Burnley and the North End, and on this ground alone the prospects of the Cup holders appeared more rosy than those of the cutlers. All this, however, did not help the Forest, who curiously enough shared the fate of Notts Country in being put out on their own turf.

If there is one team more than another that ought just now to do duty for the League in a representative capacity it is the one that has Anfield-road for its headquarters. Consistency is its name, and in this respect Liverpool may be said to stand alone. Except for the slip in the Lancashire Cup-ties, when Bury put the extinguisher on, they have not known defeat since they paid a visit to Derby as far back as the 10th December, and commencing with December 26 they have lost only two goals in both the League and three rounds of F. A. Cup-ties. Their record is just about the most briliant that has been built up for years, and their defence may be said to be unrivalled. They have been away from home seven times without sustaining defeat. Liverpool journeyed to West Bromwich fortified by that confidence which is born of continued success, and it pulled them through handsomely. The Albion were tryers every inch of the way, but they had to deal with a clever team, who were not only sound in defence, but were smarter in attack. It was a neck-and-neck race up to the interval, but after this the visitors frequently showed their superiority. Storer had nothing like the amount of work that felt to Reader, who lost the second goal through being tempted from under the bar. Liverpool thoroughly deserved their success beyond a doubt, and as this was the second time they have defeated the Albion at Stoney-lane during the season they have fairly carried away the honours.

It was an open secret that the enthusiasts down South were very hopeful or having at least one club in the semi-final rounds. They had two strings to their bow, and two very good strings, too. But alas ! both snapped under the strain of First League pressure, and these Southern lovers of the game who visit Crystal Palace for the final in April will not have the pleasure of urging on one of their own representatives to victory. Southampton were very sanguine about their chance with Derby County. Possibly they imagined that if they could give the quietus to Notts County on the banks of the Trent they ought to hold their own at home with any rival. This is a common sense view of things, and when Southampton found themselves with a goal to the good at the interval they had some justification for their belief. But after this there was a marked change in the form of the visitors, who bestirred themselves to some tune, the upshot being that Bloomer and M'Donald got the better of their old goalkeeper.

A very few weeks ago not a man could have been found with sufficient boldness to predict that Stoke would qualify for the semi-finals for the F. A. Cup. Stoke had never done such a thing in their lives, and it did not look likely that they would do it in this year of grace. But here they are, one of the last four, and playing just about as well as any club that can be named. They proved too good for Tottenham Hotspur, scoring twice as many goals as any other two teams, and winning with great ease. The Stoke forwards are just now in undeniable form and they may be trusted to make matters warm for future opponents. The Cup in the Potteries would be something new.

The arrangements for the semi-final stage of the struggle for the Association Cup were completed on Monday in London. Stoke and Derby County are to meet at Wolverhampton, while Sheffield United and Liverpool have to face each other on the new enclosure of the Nottingham Forest club, which has twice this season accommodated crowds of over 30,000 people. These matches have to be played on March 18. Stoke and Sheffield United are new to the experience of participating in the penultimate round on a neutral ground, but of late years Derby County have figured several times in these struggles, while we now recall that Liverpool played Aston Villa at Sheffield in the spring of 1897, when the Villans passed on into the final, and just defeated Everton.

The three League matches that were disposed of on Saturday only concerned the clubs that are trying to avoid slipping through the ugly hole at the bottom. One of them lost another plank, and they are, so far as one can judge, doomed to degradation. Some kind friend ventured to say in cold type that Everton were not greatly anxious to win at Bolton, for they owed something for past favours. Well, any team that has such kindly-feelings towards the unfortunate Wanderers and wishes to present them with a couple of points will find it very hard work to do so decently. If they (the kind friends) play at all, they are bound to win, for Bolton have lost the art completely. That is the truth, and nothing but the truth. Unless a miracle happens both the Bolton Wanderers and Sheffield Wednesday will retire from the First League at the end of the season. The Boltonians are no fewer than four points below the Sheffield unfortunates, and eight below the North End, who are third from the bottom. This being so the case of the Wanderers is absolutely beyond all hope. Such recruits as they have enlisted during the past few weeks are no improvement on the old stock, and one would be inclined to express the opinion that the money has been ill spent. The Sheffield Wednesday were lucky to get a point at Wolverhampton, inasmuch as their forwards failed to score. It was fortunate that their back division served them so well.

There is now every prospect of the fight for top place in the Yorkshire Northern Union Senior Competition being very keen. Three reverses out of their last four matches have made a great difference to the chances of the Batley team, and the Cup holders must win their three remaining games outright to make their positions as champions secure. Their most dangerous rivals Hull, have only two games to play, but one of these will test them severely, and the seaporters despite their recent brilliant form, are by no means certain of success. The match referred to is that with Hunslet, to be played at Parkside on Wednesday. Indifferently though the Hunslet men have been performing of late, they are yet a team to be feared, and Hull will not doubt recollect their meeting with the Shield holders earlier in the season, and thus have a wholesome respect for Goldthorpe and his men. The position of affairs in the Senior Competition to date is that while Hull have obtained one point more than their rivals, Batley, they have also played one match more. Thus, should both teams win all their remaining games, Batley will finish a point in front of the seaporters, but it is absolutely essential that there shall be no more slips. It was not a great surprise to find the Batley men beaten at Bradford on Saturday for though the Park-avenue team are so erratic, they are a really goood combination, and are on occasion capable of brilliant performances. No fewer than 29 points were scored by the two teams, so that the game was never monotonous.

There were several surprises in the games of the Lancashire Section of the Northern Union on Saturday. Oldham, the apparently unbeatable, bowed low to Widnes on the Mersey banks. True, they were only beaten by a couple of points to none, but from the account which reaches us they appear to have had none the best of the exchanges. The effect their defeat will have on the championship should prove interesting, for the Broughton Rangers, though they have some stiff matches, seem to hold a fine chance of topping the table. Runcorn, the conquerors of Widnes on the previous Saturday had to sing lowly at Rochdale where the Hornets to won by four points to three. The score was two goals to a try, and from that it will be gathered that the Cheshire men had rather hard lines. Stockport won their third match—at Wigan's expense. It was a tight game, and the score at the finish was a try to nothing. Morecambe have hardly maintained the promise they gave a week or so ago. At home on Saturday they entertained Leigh, and were beaten to the tune of 11 points to three. Salford for the first time since 1893 beat Swinton, and Broughton Rangers defeated Warrington.

In the First Competition of the Yorkshire Rugby Union the victory of Shipley over Cleckheaton, coupled with the defeat of Keighley at Alverthorpe, has decided the championship. Shipley have shown consistent form throughout the season, and they thoroughly deserve their success. The group championships in the Northern Union Second Competition are already decided, and Hull Kingston Rovers added to their laurels on Saturday by their substantial victory over Outwood Church, the latter, like so many of the opponents of the seaport men, being unable to score.

In the event of Northumberland becoming the champion county of the North it is likely that the final tie with Devon will be played at Newcastle on Saturday, April 8, a date that would be most convenient to both. Though the places are just 420 miles apart there is already talk of an excursion train right away from Plymouth ; in fact, the railway company has already been approached on the subject. It is quite certain that a large number would avail themselves of it, for Devon's success in reaching the final has given rise to unbounded enthusiasm, not only at home but among her sons abroad. W. E. Bilding, of Devonport Albion, is the G. O. M. of Devon football. He is in his 52nd year, and after just 18 years playing he is first choice at half-back for a team taking part in the final of a county championship competition ! Until recently he figured as a centre three-qurter, but has shown wonderful aptitude for half-back play, and at present has lost none of his activity or cleverness. He intends this to be his last season, however, and arrangements are in progress for a public testimonial.

Football has pretty nearly run its tether at Oxford and Cambridge this season. The season dies hard, but already most football cracks are busily preparing for other and varied inter-Varsity contests. Of course the supremacy of the Cantabs under both codes this year is still a leading topic of conversation everywhere. They were clearly the better team on the 18th ultimo, but the question exercising Oxonians is "Ought they to have been ?" A good deal of straight talk has been going on and the general opinion seems to be that a very fine lot of the Association players were utterly wasted this season, through (1) dilatory tactics re final selection. (2) the lack of "class" practice throughout. That Dark Blue supporters have a grievance is certain, when it is considered that this year's representative team only played together once —twice at the outside—prior to the Queen's Club tussle. How could they possibly combine ? It is no good crying over spilt milk however, but experience is a rare teacher in this direction. Perhaps for the future, the Oxford authorities will see the necessity of selecting their team as soon after the final Cup-tie as may be, so as to allow of combined practice throughout Lent Term. Neither sentiment nor qualms of conscience, as regards shelving prominent players—if necessary—should be allowed to intervene. Verb. sap.

March 11 will bring F. E. Bacon and Harry Watkins, the two long-distance runners together to test their powers over 10 miles, for £100 aside and the Championship of the World. Both men are giving every satisfaction in their daily exercise, and the match is creating much interest.

THE GYMKHANA TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

MARRYAT CUP.

FINALS.

THE finals for this cup were played off, the other evening, between Capt. Greig and Mr. Reid, and a very large number of spectators arrived to watch the match. There was a strong breeze blowing down the court, and the dust must have been a nuisance to the players. Both players seemed in form by their preliminary knock up, and the betting was fairly even, Reid having many supporters on account of his victory over Ransome, while Greig also had his supporters. Reid winning the spin of the racket, elected to give the service away and chose the lower court, preferring evidently to play the opening game against the wind Greig at once began to score, and it looked as though things were going to go well for him, as he won the first three games fairly easily. Then Reid, who had been rushing up to the nets too much, played a steadier game from the back line and won the next three games, though one of these was (40-love) against him. The next game produced a capital struggle, Greig eventually winning after deuce had been called, this making the score 4-3 Greig leads. Reid now had the better side and made things level, and ought to have won the ninth game, but a couple of weak shots gave the game to Greig and made him 5-4, and also the good side. Some capital rallies were witnessed in the tenth game, Reid eventually winning and making the score 5 all. One game to play and Greig's service with the wind behind him, it looked odds in favour of his winning. But he served two double faults and hit two weak returns into the net, and lost the first set. It was a plucky uphill fight on the part of Reid, who had the first three games won against him, then 4-3, 5-4 against him ; now it looked odds on Reid winning the match, but whether it was carelessness or whether the exertion had been very great he fell off a little, while Greig was straining every nerve to make up lost ground. However, one all, two all, and three all were called. Then Greig won the next three games, chiefly by some well guaged placing, and made the sets equal. One set all—anybody's game. The first game fell to Reid, but the second and third to Greig, then with Reid tiring the score rose to 5-2 Greig wins, and the match seemed to be practically over. But at this point Reid playing up against the wind made a final struggle to win, and played up grandly and won the next two games after two hard fights. The tenth game, however, saw the first three strokes go to Greig, 0 40, but Reid won the next and the fifth but missed the 6th stroke of the game, Greig giving him a difficult back-hand volley, and thus ended the match, Greig winning by 5-6, 6-3, 6-4.

It was a good match in one way, and yet it was not. It was a good keen struggle, but both players were too careful, painfully careful sometimes ; for we noticed sometimes that with the score (40-0 or 40-15) the player with the advantage failed to play to the score, which is a maxim as sound in tennis as it is in whist. Both players can hit and drive and volley with greater dash than they exhibited on this occasion. It is a mistake to be too careful, as much of a mistake as not to be careful enough. But there is a happy medium in all things. A little more practice in tournament playing is undoubtedly what both these players require. It is disappointing to watch brilliant strokes being made in the preliminary knock up, and then so essentially a lobbing game being played afterwards. We, by no means, advocate a risky dashing style ; but at the same time lobbing and tame play can be carried to too great an extent. Lawn-tennis players well know that the successful man at singles, is he who combines the greatest certainty with a dashing game. To live at all in high class tennis in England one must possess a variety of punishing strokes and not be afraid to use them. Both these players have good strokes which they failed to bring into play often enough. But this is not only the case in the match in question, but all through this tournament a good game was sacrificed to greater certainty. I will allow that it is difficult to continue playing a dashing game with an opponent who does nothing but lob : and very often the lobbing tactics distress many players. Ernest Renshaw the year he won the championship at Wiebledon was on the point of being beaten by Lawford (I think it was, but I am open to correction) in the finals when he began lobbing everything with the greatest accuracy. This so disconcerted his partner that he pulled the match out of the fire when it was practically decided against him and eventually won.

THE WESTERN INDIA CHAMPIONSHIP.

The matches for the Western India Championship promise to be most interesting, and in the singles it is uncommonly hard to say who are likely to be left in for the finals. Brooks plays Fischer on Wednesday and Greig plays Reid again. I am inclined to think Fischer will beat Brooks, and the second match might go either way—I think for a change Greig would like to take a beating. In the other half it looks any odds on Ransome being one of the two in the finals.

The doubles is a fairly open question. Two matches have already been decided, two couples have been knocked out, and it strikes me that Brooks and Reid will be left in the finals with Ransome and Binning. But doubles is an uncertain game, very much more so than singles, and there were some heavy upsets in the tournament last week.

UMPIRE.

A SWIMMING BATH FOR NATIVES.

THE Bombay City Improvement Trust have accorded their sanction, subject to confirmation by Government, to the erection of a swimming bath for the several Native communities, in the vicinity of the European bath, opposite the Esplanade Bandstand. The grant of a site for the purpose was previously given to a Parsee gentleman, but since he did not complete the project for a long time, the Trustees have now authorised Messrs. D. C. and F. C. Golvala Brothers to build a swimming bath on certain conditions. At present the Golvalas have a swimming bath at Lower Colaba, in the compound of the Jute Mills premises, the water being copiously supplied from natural springs, and the tank being occasionally cleaned out to admit of fresh water. For some years this bath has been successfully conducted, and hundreds of native youths, chiefly Parsees, have learned this useful art. But as bathing and swimming in sea water are far superior to tanks, the proposal to erect a bath opposite the Bandstand has met with the entire approval of the leading members of the native community ; and an influential committee has been formed to carry out the object. Messrs. Bomanji Dinshawji Petit, the Honorable Dr. Bhalchandra, the Honourable Mr. Vijbhukhandas Atmaram, Dr. Ishmael Jan Mahomed, Mr. K. M. Shroff, and Mr. K. N. Kabraji have been asked to form themselves into a committee, who will control the working of the bath by Messrs. Golvalas. The cost of the bath is estimated at about Rs. 30,000, which sum has been secured from the public. The Trustees have granted them a lease for fifty years, and thereafter for a further period of forty-nine years, at a nominal rental of ten rupees a year during the tenure of the first lease, and for the second lease a sum will be hereafter fixed according to the circumstances of the time. The lessees are to pay all municipal taxes, premium on fire insurance, and are to admit all respectable natives to the benefit of the new bath. A further stipulation has been made, namely, that the lessees are to deposit a sum of Rupees one thousand with the Trustees with the proviso that, if the lessees do not commence the work of building within six months after the agreement with them has been duly executed, and do not complete the bath within two years, the deposit becomes liable to forfeiture. The Trustees have duly submitted these proposals to Government, and it is anticipated that their approval and sanction will be accorded at no distant date. Credit is in a great measure due to Mr. K. M. Shroff for successfully launching this enterprise into existence for the benefit of the native community. He is an enthusiastic advocate of the art of swimming, having learned it from early age, and having been the means of introducing it among Parsees, and now among the general native communities. The rules and regulations for the conduct of the new bath, for the admission of students, and the levy of fees will be regulated with the previous sanction of the Trustees of the Improvement Scheme

A FURLOUGH FOLLY.

A ROMANCE OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

(Being a Charade for Amateurs.)

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Aunt Tabitha.

May Derville (Tabita's niece).

Jack (their cousin).

(Acted at Veytaux—Switzerland—on 17th and 19th November and 12th December 1898.)

SCENE I.

(Auntie sitting at table with needlework—Enter (left) May singing and swinging Lawn Tennis bat.)

May—Oh ! Auntie, I've had such an *awfully* jolly set of Tennis with Cousin Jack—A *love* game—Think, Auntie, I'am one to love !

Aunt—My dear May, I do wish you would be more refined in your choice of expressions. Awfully jolly is not the phrase one expects to hear from a young lady. It sounds so dreadfully obliterate —And then whoever heard of a young lady desribing herself as "one to lòve." You never heard *me* speak of myself in that way.

May—Well, Auntie—but I *am* one to love, Cousin Jack said I was. Just you ask him—And you know "love" in Tennis means "nothing."

Aunt—I am sure, my dear, your Cousin *Jack* means nothing. However, I shall certainly speak to him about it. A love game indeed !

May—Well, but it was a love game, you know. Only I think Cousin Jack rather gave himself away. He gave me such a lot of chances.

Aunt—There again, my dear, I do wish you would not employ such a very vulgar expression as lots of chances.

May—Lots of chances ! why, what should I say, Auntie ?

Auntie—Well, my dear, I should prefer to say an abundance of favourable opportunities. That would be less inelegant, and I suppose quite anonymous.

May (*aside*)—Of course, she means synonymous.

Aunt—And then, my dear, I do wish you would learn to say "chănce" instead of "chânce" ; you have no idea what an expression of refinement and propriety you would impress on your features if you were habitually to say "chănce" instead of "chânce," "Frănce" instead of "Frânce," "dănce" instead of "dânce," "Ăuntie" instead of "Âuntie."

May—And căn't instead of cân't, I suppose. I căn't bear cânt.

Aunt—There's one other thing, my dear, I wanted to speak to you about. I cannot say I approve of your continually metropolising your Cousin Jack.

May (*Indignantly*)—Auntie, I do *not* monopolise Cousin Jack. He *asked* me to play.

Aunt—Yes, my dear, but you should not take advantage of his good nature. He is only too accommodating. Of course you are only a child to him, and though he likes to hear you prattle, I daresay, you must not suppose it can give him any real pleasure to waste his time with you, when he might be conversing with persons of mature judgment and cultured intellect.

May (*pettishly, and yet trying to appear indifferent*)—Oh! I am sure I don't want to inflict myself on Cousin Jack if he thinks me too childish to talk to.

Aunt—My dear, Jack is no doubt willing enough to while away a few minutes with you now and then. But of course he prefers more solid conversation. And, then, you yourself should devote more of your time to serious studies. It would be better, far better, for you to spend your mornings in the schoolroom.

May—Oh! Auntie, I'm sick of the schoolroom and lessons. I thought I was supposed to have finished my education, and I am sure Cousin Jack thinks so too.

Aunt—Ah! I am afraid your Cousin Jack little knows how ignorant you really are, my dear.

May—Oh ! but Auntie, he often comes in when I am in the study and helps me. And, do you know, the other day he began to hear me my French verbs, and fancy ! he insisted on my beginning with "aimer," to love, you know, which of course I knew by heart.

Aunt—My dear, I do not consider it desirable for you to conjugate such irregular verbs with your Cousin Jack.

Aunt—Oh ! but Auntie, "Aimer," to love, is not an irregular verb ; it's the first thing one has to learn. Ask Jack. But I told him I did not want to say that. I wanted to go on with the second conjugation "Finir" to finish, you know.

Aunt—Quite right, my dear.

May—Yes, but Cousin Jack said when one had begun to love one didn't want to finish.

Aunt—My dear child, I think you had better go to school to finish. When I was your age it was considered essential for a young lady to know many things of which you probably have no idea. The use of the globes, for instance, comic sections, anæsthetics, cosmetics, etcetera, when I was your age——

May—Oh ! but that must have been a *long* time ago, Auntie.

Aunt—I am sure I don't know, Miss, what you mean by *that*. Of course I'm not a chit of a girl just out of the nursery. And yet (*pensively*) it seems but yesterday that dear Jack and I were romping together in the dear old schoolroom at the Priory.

May—Romping ! Did yoy ever romp, Auntie ?

Aunt—When we were children, my dear.

May—But with Cousin Jack ?

Aunt—We were children, my dear. That is to say, I was a child.

May—But how strange ! Cousin Jack cannot be more than thirty-five and you must be——

Aunt—(*quickly*)—Exactly ten years younger, my dear.

May—But Cousin Jack says you used to hear him his Latin declensions when he was eleven.

Aunt (*tenderly*)—Ah ! yea. Does he remember that ?

May—Ah ! but if he was eleven, perhaps you were not ten years younger *then* than he was, or you must have been a very forward child.

Aunt—Yes, I was a forward child. Not in the sense in which young girls are forward nowadays. But Jack (*reflectively*) used to like me to help him. He was so fond of me, you know. Dear Jack, he has always been so kind, and so very devoted to me. Being my first cousin, I always saw so much of him. We grew up as it were together, and he always took such a tender interest in everything connected with me. He used to say he could never do anything without dear Cousin Tabitha, as he always called me. Poor Jack. I often think if he had been left better off—he would—Well—well !

May—What *do* you mean, Auntie ? Do you really mean that Jack——

Auntie—Well, my dear, I hardly like to discuss these matters. But perhaps if poor dear Jack had not felt that I was so much richer than he was—— But he always had so much delicacy of feeling—such a quixotic sense of honour—such diffidence.

May—Well, but Auntie, Jack is well enough off *now* ?

Aunt—Yes, my dear, a moderate income. But do you know, I have been quite distressed to note how very distrait and well depressed Jack has been of late,—as if, almost as if—he were, I hardly know how to put it, as if, dear me—well, as if he were suffering from some long-suppressed and long-cherished feelings, well, some affection—that he fears, that he is too timid,—too diffident to disclose to its object : Have you not noticed a little something ?

May—Well, Auntie, perhaps Jack has not been in his usual spirits. But I had no idea——

Aunt—Ah ! my dear, Jack is so careful not to shew how deeply he feels. Though he certainly has been most—well—most constant in his visits to me. No ! I do not think—I almost fear—I cannot be mistaken.

May—Well, Oh ! dear ! I'm sure I hope Cousin Jack will be happy.

Auntie—Oh ! yes. I trust—I think—dear Jack will be happy. You know with my means and influence, it would be so easy for Jack to get into Parliament, and then there would be no difficulty in his career.

May—Oh ! Auntie, do you think Cousin Jack is ambitious —in *that* way ? If I thought that—well——

Aunt—My dear love, what *does* it matter what *you* think ? Of course *all* men are ambitious, and Jack is not at all the person to rest content with his present modest position and small income. He ought to shine—and he shall shine !

May—Well, Auntie, as I said before, I hope he'll be happy whatever he is or does, and of course it's all nothing to me—and I wish—oh ! I do wish I were a man !

Aunt (*severely*)—You might occupy your time better, May, than by indulging in wishes so very unlikely to be gratified. Don't you think now you might, for instance, practise your scales ?

May—No, thanks, I detest scales. I should prefer some good crashing, smashing chords, or discords rather. (*Goes to piano, bangs for a minute, then plays softly, and drops off into the song "Violets."*

During the song enters Jack—quietly, nods to Aunt: then comes slowly towards piano with bouquet of roses which he holds behind his back. Meanwhile Aunt is fussing about putting away her spectacles, needlework, &c., furtively arranging her hair and looking in a handglass, and when Jack at last turns to speak to her after hurriedly placing a book before herself pretends to be absorbed in it. At conclusion of song Jack claps his hands and says——

Jack—Brava! Bravissima! Now! May, you sang that song ever so much better to-day.

May—Yes, I feel more comfortable when I play the accompaniment myself.

Aunt—That's not much compliment to my execution!

May (*aside to Jack*)—Oh! she doesn't *execute* it. She *murders* it.

Jack (*to May*)—I could forgive her murdering it if she wouldn't torture it first.

May (*to Jack*)—Yes, and if she would not torture her audience too.

Aunt—I wish, May, you would cultivate a more classic taste. Now if you would learn to sing it, I would play the Creation for you.

May (*aside to Jack*)—Oh! wouldn't that give Handel a turn, as the organ grinder said!

Aunt—Ah! I love Handel! I always feel quite *carried away* with the music.

May—Carried away with the music! I wish she were——

Jack—It's the organ grinder's monkey that is carried away with the music—generally—isn't it? (*Both laugh*). But see May, "I have brought thee fairest roses."

May—Oh! thanks, Jack! Are you sure you really meant them for me?

Jack—It looks like it, doesn't it?

May (*aside*)—Yes, perhaps it does look like it. (*Comes forward with roses.*)

Aunt—Oh! Jack, are these lovely roses for me?

Jack—Well, Tabitha, the gardener was getting you some—wall flowers—so I——

Aunt—Oh! thanks, never mind; (*aside*) so timid about giving me anything at all *marked*.

Jack—Well, Tabitha, studying again as usual. What is it?

Aunt—Oh! Herbert Spencer, you know. The Synthesis of Sociological Implications."

Jack—Don't you find that pretty stiff reading?

Aunt—Well, *I* never find any difficulty with Herbert Spencer. The great thing is to look at his System from his point of view.

May—Why, Auntie, you've got the book upside down. Is that Herbert Spencer's point of view?

Jack—I suppose, Tabitha, that's Spencer's "First Principles," eh?

May—Oh! yes, that's the book I always read, Aunt, to sleep with. Its effect is almost instantaneous. But yesterday afternoon it did not operate so quickly, and I got sleepy myself. So I stopped reading, and made up a beautiful sentence, to do duty for Spencer.

Jack—Let's hear it, May.

May—Well, you must understand I'd been reading all about the persistence of force and the indestructibility of matter and all that rubbish, you know.

Jack—Yes, all that rubbish I know.

May—And somehow I could not get that silly nursery rhyme out of my head. "There was an old man who stood on a hill. And if he's not gone he stands there still."

Jack—What on earth has that to do with Spencer?

May—Well, I wove it in like this. "I would illustrate the conservation of Force, or as I should prefer to call it the persistence of kinetic energy *thus*.

"Assuming—but not granting—that an elderly individual of the male sex had been located on the apex of a natural elevation, and further assuming but again not granting, that no modification in the position of such individual had subsequently arisen to affect his relation to his environment, the implication would arise, that he might yet be occupying the identical portion of space in which according to the initial hypothesis we have already posited that he was originally located."

Jack—(*dreamily*)—Yes, I see. I begin to feel the soporific effects. There was an old man—well——

May—Yes, and do you know Auntie liked that passage so much, she made me repeat it three times over, and then dropped off into a peaceful slumber, murmuring softly, "Ah! how profound."

I don't know whether she meant the sleep or the sentence.

Aunt—Now, May, dear child, I think your Cousin Jack has come in to have a little rational conversation with me: so run away and play in the garden by yourself.

May—Oh! I *hate* being ordered off to play in the garden by myself. Oh! I do wish I were a man.

Jack—My dear May, that's a very selfish wish.

Aunt—My dear May, you should be ready to accede to the wishes of your elders.

May (*aside to Jack*)—Oh! bother my elders.

Jack—I suppose that includes me.

May—Oh! no, Jack, *you* are *different*.

Jack—At least, May, I think you know that I am not *indifferent*.

Aunt—Now, May, don't tease Jack; why can't you go and play by yourself? That's a (*good*) child.

May—Very well, Auntie dear. I'm going like a good child. (*Going but returns*) But oh! I say Jack you really must come and see my sweet peas. Only they haven't quite come to perfection yet.

Jack (*offering May his arm*)—Well, then, allow me to lead perfection to the sweet peas. I'll be back again soon Tabitha. Au revoir. (*Exeunt Jack and May.*)

Aunt (*sola*)—Well, I'm sure. That chit of a child is always taking Jack off just when he is on the point of saying something really important to me. However, I think it will be just as well to see how the young minx deports herself with her cousin, so I'll take a turn in the garden myself. (*Calls off.*) I'm coming, lovey—as soon as I've put on this—oh! this dreadfully troublesome hat! (*Exit.*)

CURTAIN.

END OF SCENE I.

SCENE II.

(*Jack sitting with Album, music paper, &c., in front of him at table. Enter May in riding habit or cycling costume, buttoning her gloves, &c.*)

Jack—Going off for your ride, May?

May—Yes, only to the village.

Jack—I wish I could come with you.

May—Oh! it's no distance, and I can't expect to have you always with me, Jack.

Jack—I am afraid you would not care for it if you did.

May—Oh! I don't know. I should if you could spare the time and were not bored with me.

Jack—Bored! My dear child, how could I be?

May—Oh! Jack, I wish you would not call me a child. Do you think me so *very* young?

Jack—No, May, but I'm afraid I must seem awfully old to you, don't I?

May—Why, Jack, you're not really so very old. You can play tennis and shoot beautifully and dance and ride still.

Jack—*Still!* Ah! I thought so.

May—But you know, Jack, I do wish you would tell me if it does bore you to have to talk to me. Because of course I should not wish you to waste your time with me, when (*archly*) the society of Auntie must be so much more congenial to you.

Jack—Oh! of course I'm very fond of Tabitha, but——

May—You really are *fond* of her, Jack?

Jack—Oh! yes, of course for Auld lang syne. Why, you know, when I was a youngster I used to worship her; made her my ideal. She was the autocrat of the schoolroom and I was quite frantically in love with her.

> I made her little gifts of fruit:
> I'd written lines to her as Venus!
> I'd vowed unflinchingly to shoot
> The man that dared to come between us!

You know Calverley's lines, and how ridiculous young people are.

May (*slightly nettled*),—Not more ridiculous than *old* people I think.

Jack—Ah! yes, yes, I forgot how old I must seem to you.

May—Oh! Jack, you know I didn't mean you. But Auntie is really sometimes too——

Jack—Come, May, you must not be unjust to your Aunt Tabitha.

May—I am sure I don't mean to be unjust to her, and I hope, Jack, you are not. Of course I am very *fond* of Auntie in my way, and I would willingly do anything to save her any real pain. And, oh! Jack, I could not bear to see her suffer if you neglected her after you had won success. But you do really care for her. You are not entirely absorbed in dreams of ambition and success in a political career?

Jack—Of course, I am not, though I confess I should like to succeed if it could bring any happiness to one I care for more than I care for myself.

May—Oh! *Auntie* I'm sure, would be delighted at your success.

Jack—And you, May, would you care nothing?

May—Oh! I—Cousin Jack—of course I should be glad, glad of anything that would make you happy.

Jack—Ah! then I would give anything to succeed.

May—But what does it matter to me? I am only a child, you know.

Jack—Ah! but then I am fond of children. And nothing could make me happier than to see your eyes brighten—to win a glad smile from you—by work that was worth the doing.

May—Oh! Jack!

Jack—But I'm not *absorbed* in ambitious dreams, and I could give them up without a shadow of regret, if—well—if they were to interfere with the realisation of still brighter hopes. You don't care much for politics, surely, May. Political economy, the dismal science, Party squabbles and Bluebooks, Statistics and all that kind of thing. I remember though you are a bit of an enthusiast about the rural poor, aren't you?

May—Oh! yes—and that reminds me, I really must go down into the village. I shall be back soon though Jack, and you will not mind copying out that piece of music for me, will you? And, oh! please do write that Acrostic on my name in the Album you gave me—I wish you'd write my name in it at once—will you?

Jack—Yes, here you are. What shall it be? "May Derville from her Cousin Jack."

May—Thanks, Jack—and now I must leave you. Ah! here's Auntie, so you will have a delightful time.

(*Aunt comes in with a book in which she is absorbed—walks almost on to table, then starts.*)

Aunt—Dear me! I had no idea you were here. And you Jack! You can take this book, May, and put it aside, my love! I shall not want to read *now*.

May—What is it? "Shady Tales from the Plain, by Hughard Stripling." Rather a different line of reading from Herbert Spencer, Auntie, and seems much more absorbing.

Aunt—Ah! my dear, I like to be *many-sided* and wish you were many-sided too.

May—Thanks, Auntie. I don't want to have any "side" But I really must be off. I'll be back in a quarter of an hour. Good-bye. (*Runs off.*)

Aunt—Well, Jack, I *am so* glad to have an opportunity of a little quiet chat with you again. It seems like old times. You have not forgotten those pleasant happy days—have you?

Jack—No, no, Tabitha.

Aunt—And the fun we used to have at the Priory when you came home for the holidays. How full of spirits you used to be.

Jack—Ah! and the rides we used to have in the summer, and the nutting-picnics in the autumn—and your garden where the cow used to come in at night and eat up your tulips.

Aunt—And then you used to try and console me and brought me flowers from your own garden. And you used to write me such verses—Ah! Jack. I have those verses still.

Jack—No! have you? They must have been awful bosh. I *was* a little prig.

Aunt—Oh! no. They were beautiful. One beginning—

> Oh! Star celestial, thou so far above me.
> Thy pure cold beam could never stoop to love me.

Jack—Oh! for goodness sake, Tabitha, stop. I had no idea that idiotic rubbish had been preserved. Why you used to tease me about it when I was a boy, and I was quite ashamed of it even then. But I wanted really to speak to you of a subject that is a very serious one to me.

Aunt—(*rises slowly, crosses to Jack—puts her hand on his and says*)—Yes, Jack—dear Jack. You will find me *all* sympathy (*goes to sofa, settles herself on it—then aside*) can it be! (*pats sofa to right of her to motion Jack to her side—Jack takes seat*).

Jack—Yes, Tabitha. I trust I may always count on your true friendship—even if you cannot give me hope.

Aunt—(*aside*)—It *is* coming! (*then aloud*) Certainly dear Jack. I can never, never hear you unmoved.

Jack—Perhaps you may already have some inkling of what I am about to say. You may have noticed that I have been rather depressed and anxious of late.

Aunt—(*with slight agitation.*)—I will not deny—I cannot deny that I have noticed. But how could I speak? What could I do? I have always *felt* for you.

Jack—Well, then, Tabitha—You have guessed. I thought you *must* have guessed something of the feelings I have long been struggling to repress—fearing that I was foolish to hope as I own I sometimes do—feelings that I fancied—occasionally did not, in spite of all my efforts, altogether escape your notice and that I even thought you did not entirely disapprove or discourage.

Aunt (*aside*)—Ah! it is coming. (*Aloud*) Dear Jack, such delicacy such—diffidence.—Ah! such touching—I had almost said such *excessive* diffidence.

Jack—Ah! Tabitha—you can hardly tell how I have felt watching the development of such grace, such sweet womanliness: such a bright clear intellect—such gentleness, tenderness, goodness.—that I *dote* upon the very ground that those dear feet have touched.

Aunt (*who through the last speech has shown much agitation and some self-complacency*)—Oh! Jack! I think I can guess. And why should you think your noble, chivalrous devotion hopeless?

Jack—And you think Tabitha—May would not be altogether unprepared for this disclosure?

Aunt—May! (*aside*) Oh! he means May will have to seek another home—(*aloud*) May—Oh! no—she will be comfortably provided for. I have always intended doing something for her.

Jack—How truly generous. But I mean more. Do you think she will be really happy?

Aunt—Oh! yes (*indifferently*) I think she will be a very lucky girl.

Jack—(*rising and coming forward*)—Oh! Tabitha. I cannot tell you how happy—how ecstatically happy you have made me. And I may really hope?

Aunt.—My dear Jack (*sobs almost fainting, totters forwards throws herself in to Jack's arms, and says half choking*) You need not despair—dear Jack, your love is returned. Ah! this is too—too—(*faints*).

(*Enter May speaking.*)

May—I had to come back for my (*sees Aunt*)—Goodness, gracious Jack what is the matter with Aunt? What have you been doing to her? Is it a fit?

Jack—Oh! I don't know. She went like this all of a sudden. What am I to do? Here—throw some water over her—walk her up and down. Roll her on the hearth rug—or something.

May—Oh! no, poor dear, she's coming to—(*Jack and May take Aunt to sofa and deposit her. Auntie's wig comes off and discloses a bald head underneath. Jack turns away shocked.*)

May—There leave her to me. There Auntie, dear. (*May kneels beside Aunt.*)

Aunt—(*reviving*) Oh! where am I? Oh! my hair. (*May arranges the wig*).

May—Here Auntie dear, do you feel better now? (*chafes her hands*).

Aunt—Oh! yes dear thanks. I am so overcome. It's very foolish of me. But dear Jack, Oh! he is much too good for me, May. He has made me *so so* happy. He wants me to be his wife.

(*May turns with a look first incredulous, then horror-struck and pained. Jack at extreme left of stage in great distress.*)

Jack—(*aside*) Oh! this is too horrible. I dare not undeceive her now. (*Aside to May*) I will explain all to you later.

May—(*rising slowly with dignity and scorn*) Oh! I think I quite understand thank you—well—I hope you will both be very—very—happy (*with tears in the voice—then proudly and with great self-restraint to Jack*). And you Jack I hope you will realise all your dreams of ambition. (*Jack starts and turns to her as if about to protest,*) *May waives him off and says.*) You had better help Auntie. (*May goes up stiffly and proudly back of stage with great self-repression.*)

Aunt—(*as Jack looking anxiously back towards May goes to sofa and offers his arm to Aunt*) I feel quite strong again now. Dear Jack—yes—thanks—your arm (*takes Jacks arm and leaning on him and leering in his face goes off with him, murmuring*). Oh! so happy—so happy—dear Jack.

(*Exeunt Aunt and Jack.*)

May moves listlessly forward from back of stage touching and taking up one or two objects as if unconsciously—comes to table, looks at Album—breaks down and says sobbing) Oh! I can—not believe it! (*sinks on chair*).

CURTAIN.

END OF SCENE II.

SCENE III.

(*Boudoir as before. Enter Aunt somewhat disturbed—carrying a bottle marked Poison.*)

Aunt—I cannot understand it—Jack seems more depressed and abstracted than ever. He is certainly very strange. And May, too, seems so constrained and so silent—and she almost burst into tears just now—and Jack—well, he hurried out of the room. I wonder whether that foolish girl flattered herself that Jack really cared for her! I know he used to take a great deal of interest in her reading. But there must be an end of that kind of thing now. (*Turns to table, takes up Album.*) Why, here's a new book of hers which he must have given her. An Album, is it? Yes, upon my word! (*opens and reads*) "May Derville from Cousin Jack." And here's some poetry in Jack's handwriting on the first page, with all the initial letters in illuminated Capitals (*reads with scornful emphasis*):

> Most rightly named May
> All sunshine and flowers—
> Yet far off be the day
> Dimmed by stormcloud and showers
> Earth bring forth thy rarest
> Round her let there rise
> Vernal offerings the fairest
> In the light of her eyes—
> Let December's chill snows
> Leave no trace but depart
> Eternal spring glows in the warmth of her heart.

Very sweet and tender and appropriate! Oh! my goodness! But I will soon put a stop to this, Miss. Ah! I wonder how long ago this was written. It seems to have been done for May's birthday. That was six months ago. Well, I mustn't be too hard on Jack. He has evidently since reflected on his imprudence, and has no doubt realised how much better it would be for him to give up trifling with a comparatively penniless girl. What help could she be to him indeed? While I—Ah! I have no doubt Jack is alive to the advantages *I* can secure for him. And then he was *so* tender and *so* delicate in leading up to his offer. It is foolish of me—but I feel so all of a twitter. My poor nerves! I think I must try a little of my restorative; a very harmless pick-me-up. I am glad I have it with me. I like to have it always labelled Poison. It avoids misconstruction and no one else is likely to touch it. Dear! dear! where are my glasses? I declare I hear footsteps. Jack's I believe. He must not find me carrying this bottle about. Here quick. I'll put it under the sofa cushions and come back for it when Jack has gone. I don't want to meet him just now.

(*Exit at right. After she has disappeared enter Jack distractedly.*)

Jack—Oh! it is dreadful—dreadful! This horrible mistake. What possessed me to speak to Tabitha at all about my love for May? And what could have possessed Tabitha to construe my confession into a declaration and offer to herself! And May—she seems so distant and indignant—And what did she mean by her reference to my ambition? Is it possible that she—May—believes me capable of marrying Tabitha for her money? I who am mad—mad—mad—in my hopeless love for May! Surely May herself must have known, must have seen that I worshipped her. But I could see that she always looked on me as an old fogey. That last talk I had with her! And yet—why did she burst into tears just now? Is it—can it be possible that May cares—and that I have sacrificed her happiness as well as my own by my stupid blundering? Oh! it is maddening—maddening. I could wish I were dead. (*Throws himself on sofa writhes and grasps at cushions—finds bottle—clenches it wildly in his hands and then looks at it*). Why! What is this? A bottle labelled Poison! Who can have left it here! Can it be that May in her misery—But no! I expect it's merely some strong medicine, perhaps a tonic. I wonder what it tastes like—(*uncorks and smells it*). It smells suspiciously like cherry brandy. Perhaps it's one of those preparations of strychnine and arsenic. By heavens! I feel so wretched that if it were the deadliest poison I could willingly drain it to the dregs. Probably, however, if I were to take an over-dose, it would only bring on a long illness, and I should recover to go through life with Tabitha. What if I had a long illness—and if May should care for me—perhaps *nurse* me! Anyhow it would put off the terrible marriage with Tabitha, which would separate me from May for ever! And I should at least gain time! By George, I am so desperate I'll try it. I would try anything—Here goes—(*drains phial.*) (*Pause.*) It's very strange—but it certainly has a kind of a taste of cherry brandy—But there's chloroform in it I'm certain. (*Pause.*) I wonder when the beastly things are going to begin to operate! It doesn't seem to be doing much at present. (*Pause*) And yet (*gleefully*) I think yes—now I do feel a little tingling—yes—ha! ha, my nerves prick, and hurrah—my brain is, yes! it's beginning to reel. The world is—ha (*catches at chair for support*) beginning to spin round—and—reason—aye—reason totters on her throne. (*Throws himself on sofa*) oh! faithful drug—it is doing it's dark work slowly—but surely. Ah! my heart throbs—and I think (*doubtfully, then with more confidence*) yes I think I can feel a cold tremor all along the back of my spine! oh! I say, I hope it isn't going to be *too* deadly. Perhaps it's one of those awful quack medicines. Mother Siegel's Soothing Syrup or Aspinall's Enamel or something. I certainly do feel exceedingly queer. Ah! if May were to come in now, I can fancy her stealing tenderly up to me. (I wish she would) to catch my last faint accents of adoration, and my expiring lips should murmur "stoop down and seem to kiss me ere I die!" Ah! I am sure *that* was a spasm. Oh! May—if she only knew (*closes his eyes and falls back on sofa*).

Enter May dejectedly, seeing Jack she starts and says coldly.)

May—Oh! Jack I thought you were with Auntie—I'll go.

Jack—(*opening eyes and starting up wildly*) No! May—Stop! stay—one moment. These are perhaps the last words you will ever hear me utter.

May—(*anxiously*) Whatever do you mean! Jack? You look so wild, so strange. Is anything the matter? Are you ill? Can I get you anything?

Jack—(*sepulcrally*) Ah it is nothing—nothing. It will soon be over. In a few moments (*in gasps*) I have every reason to believe I shall be no more.

May—Jack—Jack—what *do* you mean? I am sure there is something wrong. Do—if you ever cared—I mean for goodness' sake tell me what is the matter? What has happened?

Jack—I may speak now—There is no need for any further concealment—no time for any foolish misunderstanding. For I feel these may be the last words I shall ever breathe. I will tell you all—all—The misery, the agony I have suffered ever since Tabitha accepted what she supposed to be my declaration of love for her. Ah! May—what bitter mockery—I was telling her—it was wrong, it was criminal, it was foolish—of my consuming love for *you*.

May—(*covers her face with her hands*) Jack what are you saying? I must not stop to hear this—(*staying all the same and dropping into a chair and waiting anxiously.*)

Jack—No May, don't fly—you must—you *shall* hear me.

May—Yes, yes. What? What? Quick, quick.

Jack—Ah! yes May. I had the presumption to love you with all my heart and soul. I didn't mean it (*May looks up indignant*). I mean I did not want to make you wretched with importunities that would be distasteful—repugnant to you. And Ah! I foolishly tried to sound Tabitha as to my chance—my hopes with you. She thought I was pleading for *her* love. And before I could *wink*, yes May, before I could *wink* she had thrown herself into my arms and accepted for herself the love *I* was proffering to you.

May—Oh! Jack. Jack, if I had known this before—And now——

Jack—And now it is too late. The anguish, the mental torture I have suffered have drawn me to despair. And I have taken a fatal step.

May—(*Rising with great expression*) What—what Jack—I trust you have done nothing dreadful. You haven't—Oh! say you have not killed Auntie!

Jack—(*As if suddenly struck by the thought and considering it doubtfully.*)—By Jove no. I never thought of that. No! Listen May. I felt that existence without you, and *with* Tabitha would be unendurable. I was reckless—desperate—and I—yes—it was rash—criminal.—but I found the means ready to my hand as if Fate had placed it there—and in a few brief moments I shall say farewell to you for ever. (*Sinks on sofa in dying attitude.*)

May—Good Heavens Jack what have you done?

Jack—(*tragically.*) I found this phial labelled poison—as I writhed in my agony, and drained it to the dregs.

May—Let me see it. Let me see it.

Jack—(*melodramatically*)—No—never—my dying fingers close upon it thus. You cannot wrench it from my grasp.

May—(*Comes up—takes his hand which he gives quite readily, takes the bottle, looks at it, and bursts into a laugh, then says*)—Oh! Jack. You old *goose*. The poison is Auntie's *cordial*, cherry brandy and a little chloroform. I'll soon give you an Antidote for that. (*goes up behind sofa as if to kiss him, as he lies with half closed eyes. Then as he turns suddenly, she turns coyly and quickly from him and comes round by table to left of stage*).

Jack—(*rising and going to her*)—And you mean that it is harmless—and Oh! May that you care for me.—

(*Enter Auntie sees May and Jack, hides behind sofa and comes very slowly forward—expressing through remaining speeches the most grotesque horror and indignation.*)

May—Oh! Jack, you know I do. And if you had not been so *silly* you would have known it all along. (*Jack comes nearer to embrace her. May pushes him back and says*) But you—you *do* care for Auntie. You told me yourself you had been frantically in love with her.

Jack—Oh! that was when I was a little boy, and she was a grown up young lady. You know I told you she was the autocrat of the schoolroom and used to hear me my Latin declensions. Why *all* little boys fall in love with girls twice their own age—especially their teachers—just as girls do with their drawing masters. It's human nature don't you know. That was how it was in my case with Tabitha. She was so much older than I—and of course I thought it awfully swagger to be desperately in love with her. It's always the way.

May—(*dubiously*)—Is it?

Jack—(*positively*)—Yes.

> The people said that she was blue.
> But I was *green* and loved her dearly.
> She was approaching—thirty-two.
> And I was then eleven—nearly.

May—But Auntie wasn't thirty-two Jack. (*Auntie expresses most lively interest and indignation at these points.*)

Jack—No. That was the lady in Calverley's lines—but Tabitha was twenty-two, and I eleven.

May—Ah! (*thoughtfully*) yes. Auntie said there was ten years' difference between your ages—only she made it the other way about.

Jack—Well May we must not enquire too curiously. Tabitha has stopped being ten years older than I for the last ten or fifteen years. But *you* May—am *I* not too old for you to care for? You always said you were a child to me. Can you care for such an old moustache as I am?

May—Oh! Jack, I *hate* painfully young people, especially your young men of the period. Young imbeciles who haven't got over their astonishment and delight at having a moustache to twiddle and who can do nothing but say, "Really—fancy. Awfully jolly, beastly nice, doncherknow?" and can talk of nothing but their own astounding achievements. No Jack, the tender sapling you and I planted together the other day may be very *soft* and *pliant* and *green*—but give me to *lean* upon the grand stalwart oak (*Jack puffs himself out and tries to look very big*) that has weathered many a fierce winter and defied the storms and stands the stronger and the firmer for it. I am glad dear Jack—you are not a boy,—a fledgling boy.

Jack—There is only one way to answer that very pretty little speech May—(*comes up and tries to take her in his arms. She throws her head back and avoids his embrace and says*)

May—But Jack—What will Auntie say when she finds all this going on under her very nose and she has never seen it?

Jack—All what May? All this (*tries to kiss her*) why my dear a kiss (*struggle*) properly administered—(*struggle*) is precisely the thing that does go on under one's nose without one's being able to see it. (*As Jack draws May once more to him, Auntie rushes forward to interpose—throws up her arms and with a piercing scream—falls prostrate.*)

CURTAIN AND FINIS.

EXTRACT FROM EPILOGUE.

> Perhaps you'll think—that we have been too hard
> On poor old Auntie here—in this charade.
> For like the angels whom I'll not disparage
> She's neither married nor is given in marriage.
> What! Shall her mournful maidenhood be chronic?
> And she confine herself to Love's Platonic?
> We'll hope for better things—for here at Veytaux
> We neither know nor care about old Plato—
> Some riper lover,—coming to the point—
> May yet caress that slender finger joint—
> And she with accents even faint and low
> While her fond heart says "yes"—will falter "No"—
> But all prefer—I'll put it to the vote.
> Against December's chills—May's—ANTI-DOTE.

(Footnote.—This piece is a powerful soporific. It has been tested, and can be recommended with confidence in cases of confirmed insomnia. *There is not a single naughty word in it!*)

BOMBAY JACKAL CLUB.

POINT-TO-POINT RACES.

YESTERDAY the annual meeting of the Bombay Jackal Club took place at Jackal Hill, Andheri. There was a large attendance of members together with numerous invited guests, and the gathering was considerably swelled with crowds of natives. Much interest was centred in the proceedings, which were of a very successful character. Immediately on the arrival of the special train from Bombay the first race—The Hunt Cup—was started. Six competitors turned out, and the riders were furnished with directions as to the country to be covered, and the lot went away to a good start and were soon lost to view. On coming into sight again Macbeth was just ahead of Klondyke, who stopped after getting over the last fence, and this mistake allowed Macbeth to come in an easy winner. A big field started for the Hunt Cup for galloways and ponies, Forester, last year's winner, being favourite. History repeated itself and Mr. John's steered him between the posts a winner by about a minute. Lord had a fall from Wandalli, but fortunately was not hurt. The open point-to-point race for horses ended in Osman, a brown gelding, ridden by Mr. C. Corbett. In this race Jubilee, who had as his jockey Mr. Graham Simpson, had a stirrup leather broken, and his rider was bound to pull up. At the time he had rounded the post for home and was within three lengths of the leader. Medowra came in second after the lapse of a short time, being closely followed by Taglioni. The open point-to-point race for ponies was a runaway affair for Nightmare, who won full of running. In the jumping competition for horses Pocahard, ridden by his owner, Major Martin, was placed first, with Mr. D. Lindsay's Medowra second. A similar competition for ponies and galloways was won by Mr. E. McCausland's Lady Lily, with Mr. W. A. Light's Plain Jane second. The latter was well ridden by Miss Mills. At the conclusion of the racing, the prizes were distributed by Mrs. Remington, at the conclusion of which hearty cheers were accorded her The club dispensed hospitality to all, and the arrangements reflected credit upon the Committee: Messrs T. W. Birkett, F. P. Rundle, D. N. Graham, G. H Townsend, Hon. P. Thesiger, J. H. Symington, and C. G Webster, who acted as Hon. Secretary. The starter and Judge was Mr G. H. Townsend, Mr. H. E. E. Proctor, clerk of the course, and Mr. F. A. Reddie, clerk of the scales. The results were as follows:—

The Hunt Cup for Horses.—A Point-to-Point race. About 3 miles. Catchweights. English and Walers 12 st. 7 lbs. and over, Arabs and Country-breds 10 st. 7 lbs. and over. Owners up. Prize a Cup value Rs. 59.

Mr J H Symington's Macbeth 1
Mr A S Lersche's Klondyke 2
Mr A C Boulton's Oakleaf 3

The Hunt Cup for Galloways and Ponies 14 hands and under.—A Point-to-Point race. About 3 miles. English and Walers, 14 hands 12 st. Arabs and Country-breds 14 hands, 11 st. 13·3 and under allowed 7 lbs. Catchweights. Owners up. Prize a Cup value Rs. 59.

Mr H E John's Forester 1
Mr A V Courage's (R N) Gyp..ss 2
Mr F J Rome's Mischief 3
Mr J A Lord's Wandalli 4

Open Point-to-Point for Horses.—About 2½ miles. Catchweights. English and Walers 12st. 7lbs. and over, Arabs and Country-breds 10st. 7lbs. and over. Prize a Cup.

Mr C S Townsend's (R N) Osman ....Mr C Corbett R N 1
Mr D Lindsay's Medowra ....Mr J H Symington 2
Mr A C Boulton's Jaglioni ....Owner 3

Open Point-to-Point Race for Ponies 13-3 and under.—About 2½ miles. Catchweights. English and Walers 13-3, 12st. Arabs and Country-breds 13-3, 10st. 7lbs. Weight for inches. Prize a Cup.

Mr G H Brook's Nightmare ....Mr H E John 1
Mr H R Howwood's Sister Mary ....Owner 2

JUMPING COMPETITION FOR HORSES.

Major H. Martin's Pocahard........Owner 1
Mr D. Lindsay's Medowra ....Mr C Webster 2

JUMPING COMPETITION FOR PONIES AND GALLOWAYS 14 HANDS AND UNDER.

Mr E McCausland's Lady Lily ....Owner 1
Mr W A Light's Plain Jane ....Owner 2

EX ORIENTE LUX.

ON February 21, Mr. Cyril Davenport read an interesting paper on Vitreous enamels before the Society of Arts, Sir Owen Roberts being in the chair. In the discussion which followed Sir George Birdwood called attention to the Eastern Symbolism underlying all European Art in a brief address which we have pleasure in reproducing:—

SIR George Birdwood, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., said he could not leave the meeting without first giving hearty expression to his gratitude toward Mr. Cyril Davenport for the valuable and most interesting paper with which he had favoured them. Mr. Cyril Davenport was doubly a master of his subject—by his comprehensive and intimate knowledge of it, and his wonderful artistic skill in illustrating it. Nothing like his accurate and vivid photo-chromatic reproductions of the objects illustrating his paper had ever been seen before; and he only hoped that Mr. Cyril Davenport would soon either edit a revised reprint of some such standard illustrations of enamels as those given in Du Sommerard's *Album*, or bring out a book of his own on the enamels of all ages and all countries, not omitting the enamels of India (Jeypore, &c.) illustrated from the truly magical "lantern slides" with which he had charmed them that evening. He must say that he sympathised with Mrs. Newman in her protest against Mr. Cyril Davenport's unqualified condemnation of the English people as art workmen. Rather he would condemn our indiscriminating insistance on cheapness; and the much abused 'British workman" was to be commended for graduating the skill he put into his work by the wage he received for it. There was in truth, nothing in the way of technical dexterity the British workman could not achieve if he was paid for it properly. What had very forcibly struck him in Mr. Cyril Davenport's exquisite and brilliant illustrations was the proof they afforded, at a glance, of the absolute unity of the decorative arts of the Old World, and of their unbroken continuity, from the date of the ancient Egyptian, Assyrian, and Babylonian Empires, to that of the introduction of the use of machinery in their production (*i.e.*, machination) in Europe, and down to the present day wherever the handicraft arts still survive in Asia. This unity and continuity are especially conspicuous in the altars, the eucharistic vessels, the sacerdotal vestments, and the ecclesiastical furniture generally, of the Eastern and Western Churches, and in the traditionary regalia of the older kingdoms of Christendom. The eight-sided "crown of Charlemagne," enriched with opaque cloisonne enamels, and studded with glowing precious stones, which Mr. Cyril Davenport had reproduced with such startling reality, was the crown of the German Emperor, the crown of the Czars of Russia, and the parcel gilt crown of the Negus Theodore of Abyssinia in the South Kensington Museum, and the golden crown, *i.e. taga* of the Abuna [labelled Abima] of Abyssinia, in the same museum; and these all go back to the imperial crown of the Byzantine Cæsars; and this to the tiaralike domed crown of the Assyrian kings of the "Nineveh Marbles;" which is almost identical with the phallic tiara of the greater gods of the Hindu pantheon. And all these evidently originated in the cap which the terra-cottas of Cyprus show was worn by the priests of Venus, and which was identical with the cap of the Roman augurs, with the *cidaris* (Athenaeus) of the ancient Persians, with the so-called Phrygian cap, and with the *taj* of the modern India, and the *fez* of Turkey. In another form, that of a loosely-folded turban, it was the "ephod" of the Hebrews, and one of Mr. Cyril Davenport's illustrations, showing a patriarch in "amice" (superhumeral) and pectoral, threw a strange light on the puzzling connection between the "ephod" and the Hebrew "breastplate of judgment." The amice, the Latin amictus, "head-wrap," "kerchief," is the ordinary Bedouin yellow and green *kaffia*, which in its simplest form is a fine cloth (*immeh*, and, as worn by the women of Egypt, *farwliyeh*) thrown lightly over the head and shoulders; as in Milton's lines:—

> "Morning fair
> Came forth with pilgrim steps, in amice grey."

When twisted round the head, as the "ephod" was, it is called in Hindustani *shamlah* [c. f. *shamiana*, a canopied sun-screen under which *darbars* are held in India]; and in some unexplained spiritual significance it is also called in Arabic *tilsam*, *i. e.*, a "talisman" [Greek, *telesma*,] which associates it with "the helmet of salvation" of Isaiah l., 17, Ephesians vi., 17, and I. Thessalonians v., 8. Here is an undoubted suggestion of a solution of the riddle of the confusion of the ephod with Aaron's breastplate and the Urim and Thummim, in Exodus xxviii., Leviticus viii., &c. It appears also in sacred legend as "St. Veronicas handkerchief," and in heraldry as the "mantling" about helmets—the "*pugri*-cloth" bound round "*s(h)olar topis*." Only by a reference to the East can we ever hope to clear up the many obscurities that obstruct our research into the origin of the ecclesiastical vestments and religious symbolism of the West, and directly we turn to the East light begins to flow in on our darkness. "Ex Oriente Lux"—that is the moral of all thoroughly detailed and exhaustive expositions of Western art, such as that with which Mr. Cyril Davenport has instructed and delighted them that evening. He heartily seconded the vote of thanks to him moved by the Chairman.

Mr. Lewis F. Day said he must say something in praise of the beautiful illustrations accompanying the paper, which enabled one to appreciate enamels the originals of which could only be seen in museum cases where the details could not be examined. He was delighted to find that Mr. Davenport recognised that the series of Anglo-Saxon enamels were really Anglo-Saxon and not Byzantine. One of the brooches shown was found in Italy, and it was a great argument against the other two being Anglo-Saxon that they were so much alike, and Sir Wollaston Franks himself used that argument, but he could not see the force of it; and most people now agreed that there was an Anglo-Saxon school, which differed considerably from the Byzantine. The fact that the Alfred Jewel bore the name of Alfred was a strong proof that it was of English origin. Many rings and other articles bore a name, but in all cases he believed it was the name of the person for whom it was made, not of the actual workman. There were many more beautiful enamels than those shown, many bowls and cups were far more beautiful. There was no doubt they were of British origin, and, in fact, this was probably the only nation then working in enamel. As a rule, similar works of the same date made abroad were inlets of glass. The low tone of colour to which Mr. Day had referred was due, he believed, to the fact that they were enamelled on cast bronze, and the zinc or tin in the bronze got into the enamel and stained it. That did not apply to the translucent Japanese work. He hoped some day Mr. Davenport would take the trouble to make a slide or two of some of the rarer German enamels, and also that he would collect some of the many beautiful Elizabethan enamels which were scattered about the country, and had never been seen together; some of them were beautiful little arabesques, which were quite peculiar in this country.

Mr. Cyril Davenport, in reply, said he should agree with Mrs. Newman with regard to enamel work, but what he referred to was the Etruscan gold work. He had good authority for saying that both Tiffany, of New York, and Guiliano had tried their best to get similar work, but in vain. He had been much interested in what Sir George Birdwood said about the Abyssinian and Babylonian crowns, and should endeavour to study that point more. He showed the bracelet from the Oxus as a specimen of cloisonne and champlere work; the one he had shown was the one at South Kensington; he knew there was a duplicate in the British Museum. South Kensington gave £1,500 for it. He should say the gilding on the Limoges enamels did not extend under the enamel. The "Alfred Jewel" was of course doubtful, but it was a beautiful thing, and was carefully preserved. It was probably the top of a sceptre, because there was a socket with a pin in it, and no doubt originally had a handle; the figure in the enamel held two sceptres.

YACHT CLUB RACES.

YACHTS HANDICAP RACE FOR MR. J. P. CHRYSTAL'S CUP.

Handicap allowances and result of the Race sailed at 1-30 p.m. on Tuesday the 21st March 1899.

Names of Boats	H'cp	Entered by	Time of arrival.	Corrected time.
	M		H M S	H M S
Stella	5	Capt J G Hojel, I MS.	5 21 43	3 46 43
Chita	11	Mr E Comber	5 32 25	3 51 25
Turquoise	Scr	Mr R S Luard	5 34 21	4 4 21
Kismet	26	Mr W P Symonds	5 44 24	3 48 24
Melody	21	Mr J B K Macbeth	5 45 13	3 54 13
Isca	32	Mr James P Chrystal	5 55 8	3 53 8
Violet	21	Capt G Wilson	Did not finish	
Manolkin	37	Officers, R A	Gave up.	

Revised Course.—From Committee Vessel round a Mark-boat with 'R' flag moored 4 miles North of Kennery Island leaving it to starboard, round the Pilot Schooner on the oute station leaving it to starboard and thence to finish at Committee Vessel leaving the Sunk Rock Light-house on the port hand.

Cup won by Stella, 2nd prize won by Kismet, 3rd prize won by Chita.

SHIP'S BOATS HANDICAP RACE.

The Ship's boats Handicap race postponed from Thursday, 2nd ultimo, (the 2nd day of the Regatta) will be sailed on Saturday next, 25th inst., at 3 p.m., Course No. 9.

Entries will close at noon on Thursday.

GOLF AND GOLFERS.

LONDON, MARCH 3.

YOUNG Sherlock, the professional to the Oxford University Club, fairly ran away with the last competition in connection with the Midland Professional Club, his score for the two rounds, 148, being no fewer than six strokes in front of the second man. A. Toogood, a player of whom great things were anticipated after his performances in the Championship at Sandwich in 1894, when, it may be remembered, he finished fourth to J. H. Taylor, Douglas Rolland, and Andrew Kirkaldy—a very meritorious performance for a young player on his first appearance on a trying course like Sandwich. Shortly after that Toogood came very near defeating Sandy Herd in a home and home match, and that, too, at a time when Herd was carrying all before him in open tournaments. But from that time his star appeared to have set, as the position he has taken during the past three or four years has been far from prominent. Toogood is still young, however, and being possessed of great power—his driving, by the way, caused quite a sensation at St. Andrews in 1895, when that excellent judge of the game Mr. Everard gave him the credit of being the biggest driver in the field—there is no reason why he should not even improve on his golf at Sandwich in 1894.

In the light of subsequent events, a rather interesting episode happened in connection with this same championship at Sandwich. On the second day Toogood and Harry Vardon were drawn together Each had a good position at the conclusion of the first day's play, and there was a certain amount of speculation as to the result of the meeting of these two young players. On the two rounds played that day Vardon held a slight advantage, although Toogood headed him in the total for the four rounds. After the conclusion of the day's golf I asked the marker, a well-known Yorkshire player, as to his idea of the relative merits of the two professionals, and he unhesitatingly remarked that he thought Toogood was the better player—and no doubt he was on that afternoon's form. Golf is a peculiar game, however, for now we have Vardon at the very top of the tree, whereas Toogood is in the position of having still to make a name for himself, or, rather, to recover the reputation he once did make for himself. Another singular feature of the Sandwich match lies in the fact that no player has been more closely identified with Vardon's numerous successes than this self same Yorkshire player, and I believe the latter was mainly instrumental in bringing the champion to Ganton. No doubt also he has changed his opinion of Vardon's merits by now.

Sherlock also secured the first prize at the preceding meeting, held in November at Olton, and on his general form of late it would appear that the standard of his golf is rather superior to that of the other professionals who are situated at greens in the Midland Counties. It is always pleasant to see a young player coming to the front and exhibiting form which marks him as a really first-class golfer, but it is another question as to whether the repeated successes which fall to his lot will be conducive to the interest taken in the future meetings of the Midland professional club, especially as the younger players are apt to become disheartened when the tournaments resolve themselves into a case of "Eclipse first and the rest nowhere." However, it will be interesting to note how Sherlock fares at Sandwich against the stronger players he will be called upon to meet.

Mr. F. G. Tait, with his foot on his native heath—at St. Andrews—has apparently been exhibiting some of very best form during the past week, one of the rounds he has played being as low as 74—only three strokes above the lowest score that the course has ever been accomplished in. A continuation of this play at Prestwick in May, and it is more than likely the amateur championship trophy will once more find resting place North of the Border. It is high time, however, that it came to England for a change, these continued successes on the part of Scotland's amateurs are becoming somewhat monotonous, England never having had a finger in the amateur championship pie since 1894.

Another amateur exponent of the game who, I hear, is playing an exceptionally strong game is Mr. Robert Maxwell, the young North Berwick amateur, who proved such a stumbling block to the Hoylake contingent at the amateur championship at Muirfield in 1897. Many considered on that occasion that Mr. Maxwell's success was greatly due to the mentorship of Sayers who carried for him during the meeting. This may in a sense have been true, as he appeared to place himself unreservedly in the hands of the North Berwick professional, this being particularly noticeable in the match against Mr. Ball, when the experience and advice of the professional had undoubtedly a great deal to do with the narrow victory Mr. Maxwell ultimately obtained. But you cannot get blood out of a stone, and the coaching of Sayers would have been of little avail, had not Mr. Maxwell backed it up with brilliant golf.

In looking through an Australian paper I came across a paragraph which may interest many Liverpool golfers. It was to the effect that Taylor, the professional to the Melbourne Club, has resigned his position in connection with that organisation. Taylor originally hailed from Hall-road, where he carried clubs for some years, chiefly in the employment of the late Alex Stewart Govane, who, I believe, was mainly instrumental in obtaining him a situation with John Morris at Hoylake, where he worked for some time before accepting the position of professional to the Melbourne Club. The information is not vouchsafed as to whether Taylor intends to take another situation as green-keeper in Australia, or whether he has decided to try his fortune in other lands. It may be that the great opportunities offered to professional golfers in America has appealed to him.

On picking up a daily paper the other day, I was very much surprised to see the announcement that Willie Park had completed the outward journey at North Berwick in 21. I was naturally somewhat sceptical as to the truth of this statement, as North Berwick is a long course, particularly for the first nine holes, and anything under 40 for the first half of the way is considered—and rightly considered—very fine work indeed. Reference to an Edinburgh paper, however, quickly explained the mystery. The figure "2" should have been a "3," making the score 38. Of course, it is a far cry to July, and it is probably stretching a point to say that Park is practising in view of his match with Vardon in that month. In the meanwhile the championship and other important open tournaments are down for decision, and in all probability we shall see more of Park in these contests then we did last season. That he should be practising over North Berwick is only natural, as, having opened a business there, it may now be looked upon as being as much his home green as is Musselburgh.

A Chicago paper, the "Daily Inter Ocean," is responsible for the statement that some time during the present season Scottish and English greens are to be depleted of the flower of English professional golf, as arrangements are being made for no fewer than twelve of our leading professionals to visit the States. Not satisfied with Vardon and Herd, Andrew Kirkaldy, Park, Taylor, Sayers, Auchterlonie, Fernie, Simpson, Tom Vardon, Toogood, and Renouf are included in the twelve. As the "Inter Ocean" naively remarks, there was some difficulty in connecting with the financial arrangements. That is easy to imagine when the necessary expenses of such a tour are taken into consideration. The "Inter Ocean" once accused me of being "shot of facts" in connection with some remarks I made respecting American golf. It rather appears as if my American friend was overburdened with a very fertile imagination.

The "long" hole at Hoylake is generally considered very well done in five. Favoured by fortune a player occasionally succeeds in holing out in four, but such feats are of somewhat rare occurrence. Last week, however, it fell to the lot of one golfer to hole out in this number of strokes, and actually to lose the hole to two opponents with whom he was contesting a three-ball match. The unfortunate player who had to rest satisfied with a four was Mr. John Graham, jun., his successful opponents being Messrs. Ball and Hilton, who halved the hole in three. It may be mentioned that everything was in the players' favour, as, owing to a following wind, and the tee being forward, it was possible to reach the green in two—a feat which all three players succeeded in accomplishing, Still, in any case the hole must have been well on the other side of 400 yards.

I hear that the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society have intimated that in all probability the numerical strength of their team for their Northern tour will be twenty or twenty-five. This number is rather a healthy order for the clubs who will be called upon to meet the combined 'Varsities on mid-week dates, particularly as the days of the matches are naturally close together, and as many of the golfers who will be called upon to play for our local teams are members of more than one of the clubs in question.

Both the University teams have been doing excellent work of late; but the palm must certainly be given to the Dark Blues, who have had an almost uninterrupted run of success during the past month or two. On present form they should certainly start favourites at Sandwich next month, and appear to have an excellent chance of at last checking the winning sequence of the Light Blues.

H. H. HILTON.

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BOMBAY PORT TRUST RAILWAY.

It is now several years since Mr. W. C. Hughes, the Chairman of the Bombay Port Trust, conceived the idea of connecting the Prince's and Victoria Docks with a branch line of Railway with a terminus at a spot between Mahim on the B.B. and C.I. Railway and Sion on the G.I.P. Railway, and it is quite four years since his formulated scheme was given to the white light of public criticism. The question which now confronts us is—is Bombay any nearer the execution of the project than it was in 1895? At first blush it appears impossible to answer the question except in the negative, for what seems a very obvious reason, that the dreadful visitation of the plague, which has not yet spent its course, has paralysed the energy of the people in the direction of new and speculative enterprise. Submitted, however, to close laboratorial analysis, this apparent obstacle becomes transformed into one of the most powerfully active agents in favour of the undertaking. One of the most claimant object lessons of the pestilence is the painful conviction that Bombay requires to be improved in the most radical manner; and in no part of the city is the necessity of augean purification and complete reconstruction so necessary as in the eastern and north-eastern portions, where in fact the Bombay Port Trust possesses most property and where their operations have resulted so greatly not only to the advantage of the trade of the city, but also to the benefit of the general health of the city. The suburb of Mazagon through which the new line will have to run has long been one of the most insanitary and neglected in the whole Municipal area. Over-crowded, ill-drained, and municipally uncared for, it has offered a happy hunting ground for the black demon whose quarry is debilitated mankind. Its opening up, ever urgent has now become a question that brooks no delay, and we are glad to know that the Committee of the newly-appointed City Improvement Trust has decided to give it first attention. Nothing could have happened more opportune for the furtherance of Mr. Hughes' scheme, and no more potent weapon could have been given him wherewith to destroy the selfish obstruction of monopoly. The Port Trustees are ready to proceed with the work at once. The improvements they have made in their northern estate have cleared the way for the larger undertaking, for the commencement of which they have prepared themselves with the conviction of the eventual realisation of their hopes. From Mazagon to Sewri, which comprises nearly half the contemplated mileage of the new Railway, they have completely changed the condition of the foreshore. Clear level spaces of land intersected with good roads have taken the place of mangrove swamps and foul creeks and basins. Not only the survey but the preparation of the land for Railway construction may therefore be said to be complete and as we said before the Port Trust can begin at once. The chief delay of the execution of the scheme has hitherto been the arrival at an understanding with the G. I. P. Railway as to the working details. These negotiations have lately become more hopeful of result—and fortunately for the inhabitants of the city, the desired result. The guarantee of the G. I. P. Railway Company is fast approaching expiration, and this consideration has weakened, if not quite destroyed, the opposition of speculative obstructionists, and we are happy to record that now that the vested interest bogie has been laid, the directors have thought it worth while to give to expediency the colours of philanthropy. A more formidable obstacle was the tepidity of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. But we are inclined to think that this has been overcome and believe that at present the attitude of a powerful majority on the Board towards the scheme is that of warm support. The inevitable construction of another dock to the south of the Victoria Dock has opened the eyes of traders to the contingency that will soon arise to seek in the northern part of the town the area for storage purposes, which will be appropriated by the new work. Their grain godowns will then have to be erected to the north of the oil godowns on the Powder Works, and no matter how good the roads which the Municipality and the Trust will provide to the approaches of the Waree Bunder Bridge, it will be evident to the most ordinary intellect that bullock cart transit, which only inadequately serves the present conditions, will then be absurd. The only alternative, as far as we can see, and we are glad to think we are not singular in this respect, is a Railway such as that proposed by Mr. W. C. Hughes.

From the broad point of view of statesmanship thre is everything to commend the scheme to the sympathy of the public and the support of the Government. The people of Mazagon and the vicinity, who have now neither elbow room nor pure air, will find both in the important suburb which must spring up between Sewri and Dadur. The present rabbit warren which stretches from the P. and O. Co's and B. I. S. N. Co's graving docks to the foot of Belvedere Hill, and fosters things unclean, will be destroyed and the land thrown open to the light of heaven, and the central and north-western parts of the city will naturally be greatly benefited by the in-rush of pure air from the harbour. But it is not only Mazagon that will be improved—we trust off the face of the earth—but also Mandvie, where the plague first appeared, and where the unpleasantly gregarious habits of the people and the unscientific and insanitary conditions in which they carry on the grain trade have given it an abiding habitation. The opening of the Nagda-Muttra line, it is pertinently pointed out, will increase the importation of grain into Bombay which compel the expansion of storage space. This, as we have pointed out above, is impossible anywhere except to the northward of Waree Bunder. Translate a portion of the grain trade to new Mazagon and the rest will soon follow to the incalculable blessing of the inhabitants of Mandvie, who then will be able to breathe and begin to devise ways and means to improve their suburb. The Bombay Government and the City Improvement Trust have, therefore, every inducement as well as reason to support the Port Trust Railway extension Scheme.—*Indian Engineering.*

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A. M., ON TUESDAY THE 21st OF MARCH, 1899.

SUMMARY.

The pressure changes of the past twenty-four hours have been small and unimportant. Readings are highest in Rajputana and lowest in the south. Gradients are slight.

Winds are north-easterly to south-easterly at most of the reporting stations and the force has been moderate to light. This morning the wind velocity was 10 miles an hour at Hoshangabad and Khandwa.

The variations from normal of both the maximum and minimum temperatures are moderate in all districts except at Surat, where the maximum is 9° in excess and Coimbatore, where the minimum is 7° in defect. The highest temperature in the shade was 107° at Surat and the lowest 52° at Lahore.

Humidity changes are unimportant and the skies are cloudless in all districts.

No rain fell at any of the reporting stations.

The weather is generally fine and settled over the whole country.

G. L. TOWERS,
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

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A SINGER'S TESTIMONY.

Professor Henry Snodin, a well-known singer and consulting voice-specialist, writing from his address, 18, Liverpool Street, King's Cross, W.C., says:—"It is an old saying and, undoubtedly, a true one, that 'the proof of the pudding is in the eating of it.' If ever that was fully realised, it is certainly so with your remedies for the ailments of humanity. I have tested nearly every kind of drug under the sun, and must say, in my humble opinion, your remedies take the lead, especially the cures for colds, catarrh, etc. They are nothing less than marvellous. Your wonderful pellets are a perfect 'Multum in Parvo.' You are at liberty to use this unsolicited testimonial as you please."

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melt these flakes of dandruff in the scalp. It goes further than this: it prevents their formation.

It has still other properties: it will restore color to gray hair in just ten out of every ten cases.

And it does even more: it feeds and nourishes the roots of the hair. Thin hair becomes thick hair; and short hair becomes long hair.

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LIME JUICE
CORDIAL.
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ABSOLUTELY PURE.
NO MUSTY FLAVOR.
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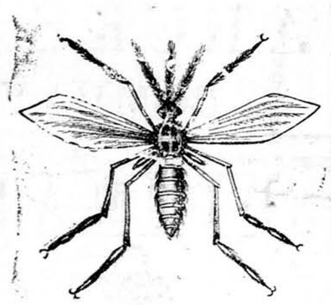


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BLAIR'S GOUT PILLS
FOR
Gout, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago,
The EXCRUCIATING PAIN is quickly relieved and cured in a few days by these celebrated Pills. Sure, safe, and effectual. Sold by all Stores throughout India.

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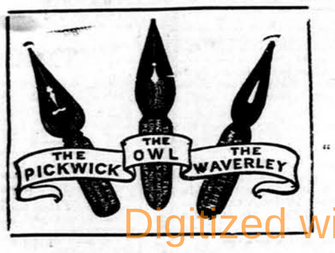


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CARNRICK & Co LD. HART ST. LONDON

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Pen embodies an immense great
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DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE is a liquid medicine which assuages PAIN of EVERY KIND, affords a calm, refreshing sleep, WITHOUT HEADACHE, and invigorates the nervous system when exhausted.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE rapidly cut short all attacks of EPILEPSY, SPASMS, COLIC, PALPITATION, HYSTERIA.
IMPORTANT CAUTION.—The IMMENSE SALE of this REMEDY has given rise to many UNSCRUPULOUS IMITATIONS. Be careful to observe Trade Mark. Of all Chemists 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d. & 4s. 6d. *SOLE MANUFACTURER*—
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FINE OLD SCOTCH WHISKY
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"CARLTON" WHISKEY.
ELEVEN YEARS OLD & FIVE YEARS OLD
THESE GRAND OLD SCOTCH WHISKIES are shipped only by RICHARD MATHEWS AND COMPANY, of London and Inverness, who are sole possessors of the Brand 'CARLTON' They are distilled from the finest Highland Malt only, are in every respect equal to the best Cognac Brandy, and guaranteed to be entirely free from Fusil Oil or other noxious impurities.
The followidg letter has been received from the Secretary of the "CARLTON" CLUB:—
Messrs. R. MATHEWS & COMPANY. CARLTON CLUB, Dec. 20, 1875
GENTLEMEN,—In reply to your enquiry as to whether the Whiskey you are supplying to this Club is approved by the Members, the best answer I can give is that the consumption of this Whiskey in the Club has GREATLY INCREASED since it has been supplied by your firm. There can be no doubt whatever about the Whiskey being MOST EXCELLENT It is Old and Soft, and I may safely say that it is much approved by the Members
Yours obediently,
W. GRIFFIN SUTTON, *Secretary*
CAUTION.—It has come to the knowledge of the shippers of the "CARLTON" WHISKIES, that the empty Bottles have been dishonestly refilled with the poisonous trash very often sold in India under the name of WHISKEY, this is therefore to caution consumers to CAREFULLY EXAMINE the CORKS and CAPSULES to see they have not been tampered with also that the Corks, Capsules and Labels are branded with Their Trade Mark.
Sold Everywhere, Wholesale of all Wholesale Houses
Shipper: RICHARD MATHEWS & Co., "Carlton" Whiskey Merchants London.

S. & H. HARRIS
FOR Boots, Shoes, Harness, AND ALL Black Leather Articles.
Does not injure the Leather.
Requires no Brushing.
ASK FOR IT.
S. & H. HARRIS'S SADDLE PASTE FOR SADDLES, BROWN HARNESS, ETC.
WATERPROOF.
HARNESS LIQUID Or Self-shining Jet. | JET BLACK OIL FOR HARNESS.
Sold by all Saddlers, Ironmongers and Storekeepers.
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GOLD MEDAL, Health Exhibition, London.
Benger's Food
FOR INFANTS, INVALIDS, & THE AGED.
As Delicious, Nutritive, Digestible.
From an Eminent Surgeon:
"After a lengthened experience of Foods, both at home and in India, I consider 'Benger's Food' incomparably superior to any I have ever prescribed."
BENGER'S FOOD is sold in Tins by Chemists, &c., everywhere.
An editorial in the INDIAN MEDICAL RECORD, of October 16th, 1897, says:
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Wholesale of all Wholesale Houses.

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Neave's Food
"Contains all the elements of Food in an easily digested form."
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For Infants—
"An excellent Food, admirably adapted to the wants of infants and young persons, and, being rich in phosphates and potash, is of the greatest utility in supplying the bone-forming and other indispensable elements of food."
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"May rely upon it whenever a diet of this class is required."
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"The children I have known fed upon it have invariably been models of good health."
WILLIAM JOHN, M.R.C.S.E., L.S.A.
And
The Aged—
"The Food is equally suitable to Invalids and Old People."
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Best and Cheapest.
In 1-lb. Patent Air-Tight Tins.

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KOKO FOR THE HAIR



ENSURES MAGNIFICENT TRESSES
KOKO FOR THE HAIR
Is a tonic, cleansing, invigorating preparation, causes hair to grow LUXURIANTLY, keeps it soft and pliant, imparts to it the LUSTRE and FRESHNESS OF YOUTH, eradicates dandruff, PREVENTS HAIR FALLING, is THE MOST CLEANLY of hair preparations, PERFECTLY HARMLESS, is particularly cooling and refreshing, and SPECIALLY ADAPTED FOR A HOT CLIMATE.
TESTIMONIALS.
MISS ELLEN TERRY, the great actress, writes:—"I have used 'KOKO' for years, and can assure my friends that it stops the hair from falling off, promotes its growth, keeps the head cool and free from dandruff, and is the most pleasant dressing imaginable."
WINDSOR CASTLE, May 9th, 1895. COLONEL E. J. IVEY writes: "Please send me another bottle of 'KOKO.' I can conscientiously state that 'KOKO' has quite performed all you say. I have found it most efficacious. My hair came out more than I liked; since using it scarcely any remains in my brushes. I have strongly recommended it to my friends, and certainly I shall never use any other than 'KOKO.'"
The Princesses BEATRICE, VICTORIA, and MAUD use "KOKO for the Hair" constantly, and there is not a Royal Residence in the Kingdom in which "KOKO" is not a favourite Toilet Requisite.
AUTHORITATIVE ANALYSIS.
"CHEMICAL LABORATORY, 54, Holborn Viaduct, London, January 15th, 1888. I hereby certify that I have submitted to a careful examination and chemical analysis, a sample purchased by myself from the stock of a well-known firm of wholesale druggists, of the preparation known as 'Koko for the Hair.' I have found nothing in this preparation which could be injurious either to the head or hair, and the results of the analysis lead me to pronounce 'Koko for the Hair' a pleasant dressing, which would undoubtedly be advantageous in many cases. I discovered in the preparation no ingredients of the nature of a colouring matter or dye.
"EDWY GODWIN CLAYTON, F.I.C., F.C.S.,
"Member of the Society of Public Analysts, &c."
Sold by all Druggists and Stores throughout India.
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THE KOKO-MARICOPAS CO., LTD.,
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THE FINEST ENGLISH MAKE.
More Fragrant; More Lasting; and very much more refreshing than all others.
USE ATKINSON'S ONLY
AND BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.
Only genuine with "WHITE ROSE" Trade Mark.
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Possesses the following Distinctive Merits.
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NUTRITIVE QUALITIES UNRIVALLED.
YOUR GROCER AND STOREKEEPER SELL IT.
Sold only in ¼ lb. and 1 lb.
Prepared by JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London, England.
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ELEGANT,
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EASY RUNNING.

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MELLIN'S FOOD for Infants and Invalids may be obtained of all Dealers throughout India.

Samples and Directions, for use, printed in Native Languages, together with a work on the "Care of Infants in India," can be had on application to:—

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HAIR PRODUCER AND RESTORER.
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Unequalled for Promoting the Growth of the Beard and Moustache.

THE WORLD-RENOWNED REMEDY FOR BALDNESS.

For Curing Weak and Thin Eyelashes, Preserving, Strengthening, and Rendering the Hair beautifully Soft. For removing Scurf, Dandruff, etc., also for Restoring Grey Hair to its Natural Colour, it is without a rival. Physicians and Analysts pronounce it to be devoid of any metallic or other injurious ingredients. 1/-, 2/6, and (triple 2/6 size) 4/6 per bottle. May be had from Chemists, Hairdressers and Stores, over the World.

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LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL

THE PUREST. THE MOST PALATABLE. THE MOST DIGESTIBLE.
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Incontestably proved by Forty Years' Medical Experience to be

The only Cod Liver Oil which produces the full curative effects in

CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST, THROAT AFFECTIONS, GENERAL DEBILITY, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, WASTING DISEASES OF CHILDREN, RICKETS, AND ALL SCROFULOUS DISORDERS.

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"I have long been aware of the great reputation enjoyed by the LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL introduced into medical practice by Dr. DE JONGH, and have recommended it with the utmost confidence. I have no hesitation in stating my opinion, that it possesses all the qualities of a good and efficient medicine. Its taste is by no means disagreeable, and might even be called pleasant. I have found Dr. DE JONGH'S OIL very useful in cases of Chronic Cough, and especially in Laryngeal Disease complicated with Consumption."

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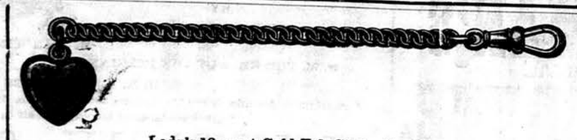
"My own somewhat lengthened experience as a Medical Practitioner enables me with confidence to recommend Dr. DE JONGH'S LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL as being more uniform in quality, more certain in its effects, more palatable, and infinitely less likely to disagree with the stomach than the Pale Oil. If I were asked for an explanation of the marked success which for so many years has attended the administration of Dr. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL, I should say that it is owing to its extraordinary medicinal, dietetic, and reginimal properties, and which are found to exist in no other medicine that I am acquainted with, in such uniform combination."

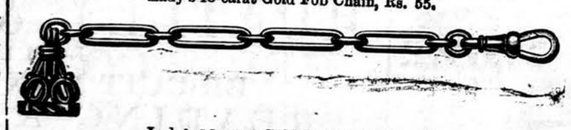
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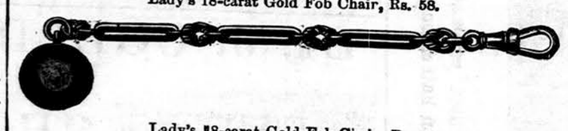
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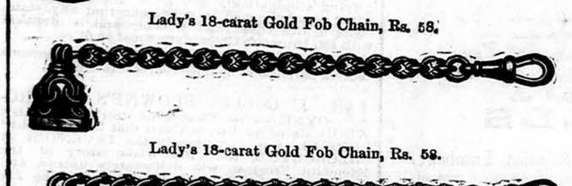

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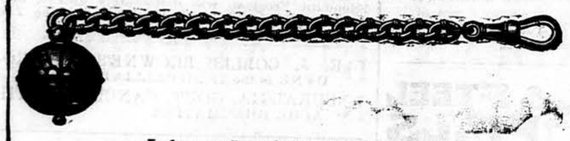

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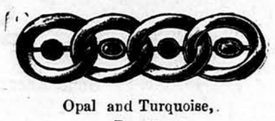

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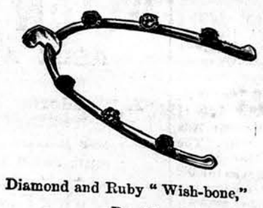

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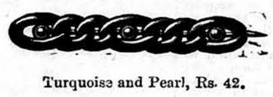

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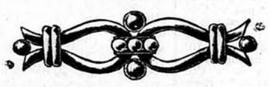

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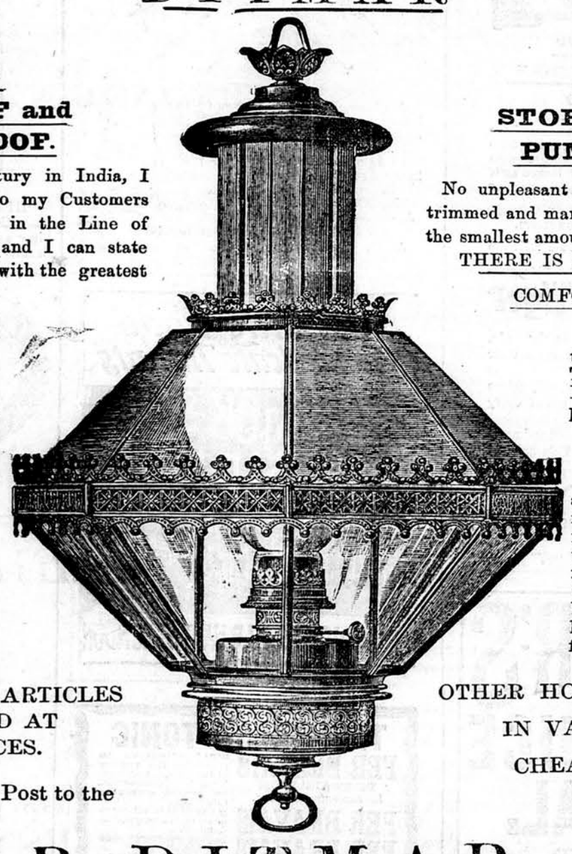
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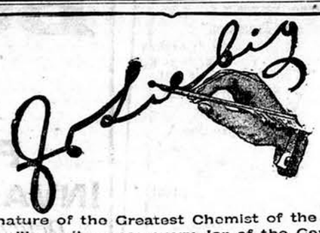
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AGENTS.—LONDON: GEORGE STREET & Co., [illegible] hill, E.C.; Messrs. KEYMER & Co., 1, Vigo Street, London, E.C.—Paris: Messrs. GALIGNANI & Co., Publishers, Rue de Rivoli.—CALCUTTA, Messrs. THACKER SPINK & Co.